CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO: CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

COMPANY HISTORY

(Period: 15 Nov to ~~31 Dec~~ 1944)

1. During this period the following changes in personnel were made:
   a. 1st Lt D. A. Brinn was transferred to 3120 Signal Service Battalion per SO 229, Hq 7th Army dated 12 November 1944.
   b. 1st Lt S. R. Sheppard was transferred to Signal Section, 7th Army per SO 260, Hq 7th Army dated 15 December 1944.
   c. Four enlisted personnel were assigned to this organization to help fill existing T/O vacancies.
   d. Promotions were effected for thirteen enlisted men.

2. On 27 November 1944 the company moved from Luxeuil Les Bains to Baccarat, a distance of 60 miles. (V-2283 Nord de Guerre). Transfer was accomplished by motor transportation, not in convoy. Company was set up in a building necessary for the operation of the laboratory, camera repair and Headquarters.

3. November 23rd was Thanksgiving. A fine meal was enjoyed by most of the members of the organization who could be present after which an informal party was held in the day room. A few of the members got together and provided entertainment for the rest of the group. Attached prints were made from pictures taken during the entertainment.

4. Casualties:
   a. On 25 November, Tec 5 Jerry Rutberg was wounded by sniper fire while on a photo assignment at Belfort. Enlisted man was given medical treatment for his head wound and returned to duty.
   b. On 26 November, S/Sgt Vita, Tec 4 Rooney and Pvt Rocha were evacuated from Mulhouse to the 46th General Hospital as casualties. These men were wounded while on a combat photo assignment.

5. In compliance with request made by this organization for additional photographers, Det "P" of the 162d Signal Photo Company, composed of 1 officer, 5 enlisted men, was attached to the 163d Signal Photo Company on 30 November 1944 for photographic duty.

On 9 December 1944, a second unit known as Det "Q", composed of 1 officer and 5 enlisted men, was attached to the 163d Signal Photo Company for photographic duty.

On 14 December 1944, Det "Q" was further augmented by the arrival of 1 enlisted man from the 162d Signal Photo Company.

6. Movement of the company from Baccarat to Saverne (Q-7115 Nord de Guerre) was accomplished on 8 December 1944 via motor transportation, a distance of 59 miles. Headquarters, laboratory, other sections and personnel were again quartered in a building near the center of town.

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Contd (15 Nov to 15 Dec 44)

7. During the period a letter of commendation was received from PRD, SHAEF with added comments by Lt General Devers and Lt General Patch. Letter extended congratulations to company for the production of still and motion picture coverage of the present U. S. offensive.

8. Weekly editions of company publication "FOTO-FACTO" are attached.

9. The activities of units in the field are shown below in extracts taken from reports submitted by Photo Officers:

a. 100th Division - 21 Nov: We're off for Belfort at daylight. After countless inquiries and detours at blown bridges, we're within a few miles of Belfort. I greet an American Lieutenant on a roadway intersection who advises us not to use that road. The words are barely out of his mouth when a large shell crashes in a field nearby. We study his map and a large scale map I've been saving and decide on a southern approach. He told us how happy he was to talk to Americans after being with the French so long as an artillery observer. We thanked him and left. We were also informed that French 1st Division General Brossett met his death the night before on a mined bridge near Belfort. After swimming through mud for miles, we finally got into town. The last blown bridge had a section of treadway replacing it that was worth its weight in platinum. Immediately set to work. Pass dead jerries on the streets. Streets are deserted and its raining, strangely quiet. We're photographing a blown railway overpass and a line of prisoners march down the street, some wounded which we (Harris, Bornet) worked on. The team of Horne-Leibowitz met up with us. I check with them to see what they had to avoid duplication. With a terrific crash a section of building is knocked off near us by heavy shells. We take cover against a building, no one appears to be hurt anywhere and although the din is awful it's not even a good picture in that kind of light. Leibowitz informs me their courier has already returned. We pack off walking, which draws less fire, for the center of the town. Zidek remained in a garage with the jeep. The shelling follows us seemingly but I finally shoot a pack--Bornet shot 300 ft. We return to Lure where we dropped the trailer with excess equipment.

b. 100th Division - 24 Nov: A driving rain, bad light and constant shelling to start the day off. Bornet and I (Harris) off to check picture possibilities. Sent Ross back to company early in afternoon with status of teams and with request for film and supplies. Bornet and I reconnoiter the Fort. At one point a TD is wheeled into a side street. They'reggoing to fire on a suspected gun position in the Fort later. I make a few hair-cutting pictures of women collaborators. Bornet passes the time checking fort surrender possibilities with army men there. The order is given to put the gun into position directly exposed under the Fort. We photograph the whole operation in extremely bad light. (My exposure 1/20th at 5.6) but it's too good to pass up. We make the first volly from the side taking cover but figure while they're



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firing Jerry will be forced to take cover...so we move up in the line with the gun and Fort and lean against a wall for camera steadiness. The concussion on camera is terrific. They finish firing and hastily haul the gun around the corner. The answer--another mortar bombardment from Jerry. 200 ft for Bornet, 1 pack for Harris. A bombardment in general begins. It drove all in their cellars and lasted most of the night.

c. 36 Division - 22 Nov: Team "A" (Valentine, Galbraith, Ross) spent the morning looking for an infantry kitchen that was going to prepare turkey for the troops for Thanksgiving Day. None of them intended to feed a hot meal in the daylight so none were preparing turkey. The remainder of the dinner preparations was to be done that night so the story could not be finished. Lt Valentine spent the afternoon keeping his finger on the possibility of the 142nd Infantry taking off on a motor jaunt. No stills made.

d. 36 Division - 1 Dec: The team went to the battalion CP at the Chateau and then on into Kintsheim to await the order for the attack on Selestat. Fog closed in on the valley and nothing could be made. Troops did not get to Selestat. Frye made 100 ft on mortars firing and ½ pack hometown stills were made.

e. 36 Division: 2 Dec: Today we ran the gauntlet to Selestat and forced to hole up in a building. We held only a small part of town and what we did hold was under heavy artillery fire. No one was outside and we didn't stay long. Earlier in the day 200 ft of MPs and five stills were made on engineers removing a roadblock.

f. 3rd Division - The 30th and 7th Regiments attacked this morning across the Meurthe River and through the 100th Division. Chappino, Gretz and Jenkins were on hand in the vicinity of the 7th, which crossed the river in the St. Michel sector. The town had been entered and taken the night before and the teams looked around the temporary bridge area, made a few pictures, then went back into the town and climbed up into the steeple of the town church where they made a shot or two from this vantage point of the activities on the other side of the valley. Pulled out, cruised the area for more pictures before returning to Rambervillers. Lt Lueders, Boone and McCroby made another attempt to get into St. Die which failed again. Because of the flanking movement being made to the north and south, the town is no longer an objective, tactically. No troops are entering the valley and the city because of the observation the enemy still has on this area. Only patrols have been in, and those during the night. Around to the hill mass west of St. Die, an enemy mortar had the advance held up through a tight pass west of Anozel. The team returned to the 103rd Division CP to get information on the refugee situation but was informed that this was a Corps function.

g. 3rd Division - 22 Nov: Chiappino, Gretz and Jenkins spent a discouraging day in the 30th and 15th area trying to get around. Traffic was badly tied up on both sides of the few bridges across the Muerthe River and most of their time was spent in waiting for the jams to open up. The main bridge was under construction and the main concentration of the 14th Armored Division was on priority to move through on completion. Lt Lueders, McCroby and Boone acting on word that a company of infantry was scheduled to go into St. Die to clear the remaining Germans out of town, headed for that section.



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This time the team drove right to the outskirts of the town where they encountered a platoon of engineers assembling prior to moving into town. It turned out that this unit was to cross the river and clear up the north side of town. The photographers piled out, put their cameras and weapons on 'load and fire' and took out with the patrol. On reaching the crossing area the platoon deployed into squads to cover the assault squad with their rifles, bazookas and machine guns. After a few rounds thrown into the deserted-looking other side of the river which drew no return fire, the assualt squad made a break for it, threw a ladder across the blown bridge and started to cross. The third man over sprung a booby trap left by the enemy but no one was hurt. For a few seconds after the explosion, everyone hung back in cover, expecting return fire until Boone dashed out and made the crossing. Once on the other side, the patrols worked up and down the streets while the photographers followed along making pictures of the riflemen and destroyed buildings. No enemy was encountered in person, the Germans having ostensibly pulled out the night before. Much artillery from both sides was coming into the southern edge of the town and a few in the central part. The light finally gave out so the teams returned to Lt Coates Hq to turn in film.

h. 44th Division - 10 Dec: Checked with Division CP to get the overall picture; then set forth to obtain coverage on a new German plastic-glass mine that we had been gathering information on for such a lull in activity. Team went to edge of Enchenberg to cover wrecked allied tanks that contacted this new mine for a tie-in with follow up technical mine story. Coverage at wrecked tanks was done hurriedly out of necessity, artillery action prompting our speed. Remainder of the day was spent in covering technical coverage on this new "Topf" mine now being put to use by the enemy in this, the 44th Div sector. This coverage was made on the mine hoping it shall familiarize other elements with its possible use and features.

i. VI Corps - 1 Dec: Attended Corps briefing. Fog so thick today vehicles driving with lights on. Air officer informed me that they would divebomb fort on the hill with 500 lb bombs if target was visible. The missionwas carried out with ground visibility zero. Planes failed to hit target area. No pictures possible in any of our sectors due to weather.

j. VI Corps - 2 Dec: Attended Corps briefing. Found there was to be another divebombing attack on the Fort using fire bombs. I also had another story started---the Jerry mass murder camp which I decided could use more coverage. Sent Olin and Smith to this story. I (Coates) took story on Fort at Mutzig. P-47s divebombed the Fort. On the first mission I was up in the target area but the Fort was all underground with the exception of the pillbox top. View of this was hidden by trees. I arrived just as the first plane went into a dive. As close as the picture was it had to be shot through trees. The next mission was a half hour later. These pictures were shot below the Fort and had the sky as a background to show smoke, fire, etc.



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k. XV Corps - 24 Nov: (Gerzen, Musser, Bartlett) Received assignment to go to Strasbourg to cover 2 DB. Before leaving Sarreburg checked 45th Division CP. Tried to find French CP also. No much information. Proceeded to check all the way to Strasbourg looking for French CP which has moved 4 times in 24 hours. Arrived at the Kieser Palace in Strasbourg where Division was set up. The Palace was heavily shelled and Division moved again. No pictures to be had as it rained and got very dark. American Captain with S.I.A.M. unit informed us it would not be safe to try and make it back to Sarreburg as we were surrounded by Germans and there were snipers on every block. Spent the night in the basement of the Gestapo building where Division set up its' Headquarters with the S.I.A.M. troops. Shelling very heavy.

l. XV Corps - 25 Nov: Rained all day. Dark and cloudy in the afternoon. Tried to get pictures in town but the town was only one quarter cleared. No activity; streets cleared of people. TDs and tanks on corners, no action. No good for picture material. Didn't drive around town due to snipers. Stayed over another night.

m. XV Corps - 26 Nov: Rain and heavy overcast. Photographed a German Major General surrendering 2 battalions to French, a total of 5000 prisoners. Reported back to Lt Goebel's Headquarters. Totals: 500 ft MPs and 1 pack stills.

Robert L. Lewis

ROBERT L. LEWIS
Capt., Signal Corps
Commanding

2 Incls:
1 - Prints of Thanksgiving Program
2 - FOTO-FACTO editions for period

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RESTRICTED . . .
VOL. 1, NUMBER 2, 20 NOV. 1944

Lt H.E. Strock, OIC FOTO-FACTO .
T/5 Robert--EDITOR .
T/4 Liebowitz--Stuff from Field.
1st Sgt Satterwhite--Local Stuff
T/5 Pierson ---- Distribution.

# 1( SIGNAL PHOTO CO FOTO FACTO OR DIGNA Y VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST .. EWS FROM HQS TO THE TEAMS IN THE FIELD...

## -; LT. BRINN MOVES TO NEW JOB :-

1st Lt Don Brinn, photographic ace and aces high with the men of the 163rd has been snatched from Patch by SHAEF for a more responsible job with the 3120 Signal Service Bn.

"Pappy" penned this note to his friends whom he reluctantly deserts to be dragged upstairs:

"I take this opportunity to say to you and the men in the field, that I have enjoyed working with each and every one of you. You are good soldiers and a good gang of damn fine guys. Good luck to you".....

Good Luck to you, Lt Brinn, we'll remember you as a swell officer and a swell guy.....

* * * *

## SUPPLIES ZERO'D

T/Sgt Frank (it's a deal) DeToro, puffed dreamily at his corona-corona. "Ah, Italy, those were the days-I was able to get everything. But now....." He laboriously removed his feet from his desk and shouted--"HESTER", show him those requisitions"

Frank's finger went down the list, "Zero, zero, nothing but zeros, which means 'no Got' " He displayed three requisitions--out of 57 items asked for, 37 were zeroed. Among them were shirts, pants, mess equipment, steel brushes for the kitchen, etc.

"And that's why", said Frank, "I'm asking the fellows not to be snafus and abuse equipment--you can't replace the stuff now"

At this point Rube Schneider, stroked his hair and said, 'yessir it's sure bad', even Albanese can't get the stuff now" .....

## .TOUJOUR L'AMOUR, TOUJOUR.

Lovelorn mademoiselles waiting for a letter from GI Casanovas who promised-among many other things-to write; GI wolves who are making a collection of love-letters from waiting mademoiselles --each may now write to one another according to a new ruling which permits communication with civilians in liberated areas of North west Europe, subject to 100% Base censorship or censorship of the indigenous government, addressed with normal military return adress... delivered by the Postal Authorities to the postal service of the indigenous* government...

(* Indigenous--a tree which sheds it's leaves in winter,,we think)

* * * * *

## ..GIVE THE KIDS* A BREAK...

There's a box in the day-room for all 'unwanted candy' to be given to the kids at Christmas Time. Looks like only hard candy so far--well we might get something for the table.....

* Not for the Kid that got into your glove compartment.....

* * * * *

...PAST AND PRESENT...

Taken in the hills around Couthenans by tankmen of the 1st Army driving on Belfort, these Germans are reminded of an earlier failure as they pass a World War I memorial decorated with flags of the United Nations.(Liebowitz, for Radio)

* * * * *

## THANKS, FOR WHAT?

-: An Editorial. :-

A thought that may come to mind of some on Thanksgiving Day is "Thankful for What?"

Individually millions of people, that includes you and I, don't have too much to be thankful for on this third year of war since Pearl Harbor. Collectively, however we can find much to be thankful for--especially we Americans!

We've seen enough of wrecked towns and wrecked lives over here to breathe a prayer of thanks that not one city, town or hamlet has been turned into rubble--thanks to the fact that the Axis was stopped before it could roll our way.

The lights are burning in the US, and the old gal in New York harbor still hold aloft her lighted torch.

Our families are safe and the forty-eight states just got through an unmolested session of name-calling which ended on November 7th when of their own free will, they elected a President of Our United States for four more years.

We are winning the war and the chances are that a lot of us will get home before we're quite eligible for old-age pensions. America will be waiting for us, unharmed and undamaged, and able to offer us the kind of life we seek, if we are wise enough to keep it from bad hands and bad ways. We are thankful that hopes of the past have come true, and for the faith in the conviction that we may again have that joy of a Thanksgiving dinner with loved ones seated at that same festive board.....

* * * * *

## THANKSGIVING DAY JAMBOREE AT COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

All members of the 163rd are cordially invited to a Thanksgiving Day Get-To-Gether Thursday 23rd November.

The PROGRAM (we hope)

Turkey with trimmings (if obtainable)--Movies
Entertainment, (company talent--there's some)
Gals (Do you know any--don't be gutteral-you)
Admission, Free-you are doing the cooks a favor.

It is to be hoped that your assignments permit coming. There are many faces that haven't been seen lately.

* * * * * * * *

## -: 165th PHOTO PRAISED for COMBAT PICTURES. :-

The Army Signal Photo Service, ridiculed and laughed at by some of the commercial press, during the early days, is now coming into its own. Outstanding records for quantity and quality of coverage is winning recognition from some of the severest critics and scoffers of the past. The latest of this is the high praise paid to the 16[illegible] by TIME Magazine in a recent issue.

FOTO-FACTO reprints the story, at the same time saluting the feats of a brother company.

"Though the battle had barely ended, many US citizens, last week, were seeing for themselves a lot of what had happened at AACHEN. For the excellent photographic coverage of the First Army campaign in newsreel and newspapers, most of the credit belonged to a small brave group of men comprising the 165th Signal Photographic Company.

"Laden with assorted cameras, the Signal Corps G.I's of the 165th this week were again pressing close to the front, ducking fire with the infantry. As usual their two-fold mission was: 1. to bring back newspictures of the US troops in action; 2) to record as many battle details as possible for the War Department archives. Like scores of similar companies on other battlefronts, they had had a high proportion of casualties(7 dead, 14 were wounded, three captured out of 62)* But their work had paid off by making the battles of World War II, the best understood in history.

## " WRONG WAY PIGEON "

"Part of their professional grief was the helpless frustration of losing hundreds of good shots. In the rush of D-Day, many exposures were ruined, and many negatives lost. One photographer who landed with paratroops lost one movie and two still cameras while retreating under fire, barely managed to save another still camera to record the first few days of action. Severely wounded, another was forced to destroy all his exposed films when capture became inevitable.

First lieutenant, Martin Lederhandler, a former Associated Press photographer, had the most vexing experience

(continued to page 2)

* * * * *

## THE MAYOR SAYS THANKS.

THE Mayor of LUXEUIL sent the company a note of thanks on behalf of the local populace, addressed to--"aux officiers, sous officiers et soldats----- d'une section de votre formation--qui ont participe a la ceremonie et au defile et qui ont ausi contribue a en rehausser l'eclat " (According to Cpl Jones--"T'anks youse mugs for gettin all togged up in your Sunday suit and makin wid the hep-hep and salutes on Armistice Day")

* * * * *

## -: SO SORRY, McCROBY :-

By error, the photo appearing in the last issue of FOTO-FACTO was credited to Liebowitz. The picture was taken by Pvt Brazle J. McCroby, Jr. The error was due to a rather heavy concentration of 163rd Phtogs at the particular point. (Liebo won't get on Brazle's shoulders again). Ed.

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SURPRISE: M/ Sgt (Zebra) Barr received a weighty package from the States,(who said he didn't have a friend in the world). Drooling with expectations,Bill opened the package, stuck in a hand and pulled out the first can..it was a can of Vienna Sausage---and Gregory(Meat-ball) Amendola out-grubbed Grubman. The other night he got six food packages-..various Italian delicasies. His room number is 51 in the annex. He also got two salamisis. Yes, his number is 51-top.

* * *

BUTTON-BUTTON..Checking the portrait of a certain high-ranking officer, Lt Boyle found the pocket unbuttoned. Putting his well known ingenuity to work, the Lt. saved the day with a delicate tailoring job--he cut the missing button from one photo, pasted it onto the erring pocket and rephotographed the job - saving the threatened morale of every pocket-conscious garrison soldier in the army.....

* * * *

PATERNITY..On a window sill in room 51 is a picture of a young pretty woman..beside it stand two tiny brown baby shoes. The lady is Mrs Leon Nagle, and the shoes are from the feet of Leon's two-year, blond-haired, brown-eyed son named Glen. Nagel has been married 35 months, in the Army 28, overseas 22.."It's been a tight sqeeze" says Leon..... Other papas in the company include James (Clippy) Glenn, who carries around pictures of a doll named Geraldine--his two year old daughter..Lab-man Ed Schwarz's blessed event came while he was overseas..he has a blond-haired, blue-eyed son named James who is already walking, and is supposed to have asked, 'Say, Mom, how's Pop doing with the French babes'.....

* * * *

LEFT BEHIND in hospitals in Italy when the company moved, "Ziggy" Kendzierski and Edgar Smith are now on French soil on their way back to the company.. ...Still sleeping on white linen and eyeing the nurses..are patients Luper, Greenhaus and Frye. We hear Frye will be out very soon. Best wishes to the others for a quick mend.....

* * * *

SUPPLY has obtained two Swiss wrist watches for the company-Sgt DeToro will raffle them off on Thanksgiving Day. So here's your chance to get a Swiss-wris wash.....

* * *

. SIG. . OFFICE ASKS MORE CARE IN DATA ON ALL CAPTIONS..

The office of the Chief Signal Officer, in a Memo signed by Col. Edw. L. Munson Jr., Chief of Army Pictorial Service, notes that the DATES on some captions for still pictures are not the actual date on which the picture was made.

Photographers are asked to furnish the actual date that the picture was taken "so that historical records as shown in Signal Corps pictures may be accurate."

"If the actual date is not available, an approximate date should be given, and the fact that the date is approximate so stated".....

"The Army Pictorial Service is constantly called upon to furnish the date on which specific Signal Corps pictures were taken, notably from the casualty branch, Adjutant General's office...." This date must always be the date on which the picture was taken, not any other date.....

* * * *

..165 th Con'T..

" On D-Dey he entrusted a carrier pigeon with some 35 m/m negatives, then watched the bemused bird head for the enemy lines. Weeks later he saw reproductions of his pictures on the front page of a German Army newspaper found in Cherbourg--under them was the legend-'Photo by Lt Martin Lederhandler, U.S. Army Signal Corps.... Despite such setbacks the 165th established a high record of battle performance from its start. Chiefly responsible for its early record was the company Commander Capt. Herman V. Hall# who lost a leg on the Normandy beach-head. When he was evacuated to England on the night of D-Day, Captain Hall mindful of his job took back the outfit's negatives for speedy distribution...

For his courage and resourcefulness Capt Hall got the Distinguished Service Cross. Of the 62 men in the 165th, two have won the Silver Star, Six have won the Bronze Star,and one sergeant has been promoted on the battle field to Second lieutenant.

But most of the recognition they receive is an anonymous credit line: US Army Signal Corps."....

(# Should be Wall, not Hall.)

* * *

SUGGESTED theme song for Snafu's--'Neither rain nor sleet nor darkness of night ..' To the cry of WHAT NO PICTURES!', Our boys are hounding the tankmen dogfaces and cannoneers in weather that shouldn't of happened to Civilian Correspondents..Typical team report:Heavy rain all day, dull overcast, only ones out were ducks and they are carrying umbrellas... SOME still combat stuff by Gretz, Lt Valentine and Musser have made the Radio Photo..Recent film seen at the company included some cinema-terrific stuff made by the late Steve Hall....

* * * *

Recent loss of Lt Don Brinn (Chaplin) is no cause for crying towels-he was kicked upstairs, where he can do more g good. Honest! ..... YALE Joel Lapidus, and Manny Greenhaus, dickering with photogs to work for them after the war, were last seen scratching out each others eyes. Lapidus offered Nilo Olin 8 bucks a week. Said Nilo "I won't work for 8 bucks Eileen Darby, or no E.D." ..."Goodbye Mr. Chiappino" who must be busy on the Division front has all the Hqs gang asking---- "Where's Chips?".....

JUMPING Ed Peterson was overheard saying"Aw this gang is alright, but I ain't ever going to do a jump again.(Are you kiddin, Pete?).....

* * * *

RUMORS of 'Occupation Photographers' has one Edgar (say fellas my Knee) Bensen, limping like mad..... AFTER waiting for two years, Jack(yeh yeh) Harris, finally got to see his brother--a War Correspondent who came into France with the Normandy bunch.

* * * *

RECENT Combat Bulletins include much footage by the Eyemos of Johnny Vita Elby Fenberg, Jim Horne, Ed Peterson, Joe Dieves, Fred Bornet and Bill Nemeth.....

* * *

. OUR STAKE IN FRANCE .

On the eve if the Invasion of France, FORTUNE magazine published an editorial called "France-the American Stake" FORTUNE is a magazine expressing national economic interests and does not speak lightly or from boyish idealism. The sub-title for the editorial is"Not Sentiment But Hard-head National Interest Dictates the Restoration of French Freedon and Security"

We reprint one paragraph, giving the crux of the argument:

.."American soldiers are not fighting for or against De Gaulle. Neither are they fighting because France happens to be a nice place. Nor because it is one of the great cultural centers of the world. If Americans are to lay down their lives in France, the stakes must be defined in terms of American interest. And the American interest in France goes beyond sentiment and beyond the fact that France is part of the civilization out of which the U.S. was born. The American interest lies precisely in the fact that the security and freedom of France are essential to the security and freedom of Europe. And two World Wars have shown that without a secure Europe there is no security, no peace, for the U.S. either".....

* * * * *

..CREDITS..

The idea for the company paper was motivated by Irv Liebowitz (Lt Strock still picks the picture) Lt Boyle, M/Sgt Barr and Sgt Bialkowski collaborated on the copy job, using repolith film for the black and white text...copied the photos separately and put the both together..double-printing. Lt Lewis typed the copy and threw some salt into it...S/Sgt Vita does the art work and Olin the cartoons..the rest do the kibitzing.....

* * * *

..MOVIE SLATES..

A complaint of long standing from the Army Pictorial Division Theater representatives is the lack of caption on the film---the'slate.' Some of the MP men consistently use slates and make the editors happy, some slate, but focus or center so badly that the slate is useless..others don't slate at all. For those who do not have a slate, new ones are now being made, pocket size, easy to use while the footage in the camera is being cleared, or at the tag-end of the roll...

* * * * *

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163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO

# FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA Y VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST O[illegible]OM HQS
TO THE TEAMS I[illegible]

VOL. I NUMBER 3...RESTRICTED...NOVEMBER 28, 1944

## FOUR 163RD PHOTOGS PURPLE-HEARTED GETTING PICTURES OF NEW OFFENSIVE

163rd photographers not only came away with the story of the new offensive recorded on film this past week, they also have a part of the record "shot" on their own skins. On Monday November 20th, T/5 Rutberg was grazed by a Nazi bullet outside Belfort. On Friday November 25th, S/Sgt Vita, T/4 Rooney and their driver Pvt Rocha ran into a shrapnel burst at Mulhouse. While particulars about these three are not available as we go to press it is known that none were seriously injured. Rooney was hit the worst.

Rutberg interviewed by FOTO-FACTO at Company Headquarters together with movie man Hershey, who also had a close shave, summed up his narrow escape from from death by saying: "I guess the sniper spotted my schnozz--and figured my name was Rutberg." The 163rd stillman, his head swathed in bandages, held his helmet punctured with two jagged holes, made by a German bullet which grazed his head while passing through. An inch more and Lt Lt Hershey, T/4 Hershey, and their driver Karlgaard comprising a regular Photo team were following the lead French tank into Belfort. The houses along the way held German snipers. Suddenly rifle and machine gun fire started coming in their direction. Rutberg hit the dirt on one side of the road while Hershey flattened himself against a house on the other. Unhappily Hershey didn't inquire about the inhabitants. It happened that the boarders on the second floor were Nazi rear-guard snipers. The French tank stopped in front of the house and went calling on the roomers with its 75. Hershey found himself uncomfortably in the crossfire. He crossed his fingers and waited, while through his mind went the thought "this is it." In the meantime, Rutberg lifted his head, glanced around and spotted picture material. He raised himself leveling his camera. It was at this point that Jerry spotted the famous Rutberg 'Schnozz' which makes Durante's beak look like a snub nose. It is an unmistakeable non-Aryan proboscis. Rutberg felt a terrific impact against his helmet.

"I thought a brick fell on me" he said. When he felt blood running down his face he removed his helmet and found the brick had been a bullet. It was afterward that Rutberg really got worried and he made a 'bee-line' for shelter where a French medic nabbed the photog and wrapped a mile of bandage around his head.

FOTO-FACTO asked the boys to pose for a picture, turning the camera on them for a change. "Hurry up" the team said, "We've got to get back." They were going to Mulhouse that night. .....

To Vita, Rooney and Rocha, who are in a hospital in Mulhouse--all the gang is rooting for you and wishing you good luck and good mending.

Now it can be told Dept: About how two photo teams, given their orders at midnight, made a mad dash through enemy-occupied territory to record for posterity, the story of the First French Army's slashing entrance into Belfort and Mulhouse. On the night of November 20th a meeting of the teams working the First French Army front was held at Company Headquarters, presided over by Captain Smith, Seventh Army Photo Officer and Lt Lewis. An additional team was added to the ensemble and the meeting got under way. Boiled down, the results were: Two teams each to cover the capitulation of Belfort and Mulhouse. The presence of Jerry Rutberg with a bandaged head underscored the risky work ahead.

Since it was expected that the towns would fall the following day, the teams had to leave immediately after the meeting. One team bound for Mulhouse had knowledge of a road used by French Armor which by-passed Belfort; the other group, new to the French sector, had little information and Photo Orders did not include the method the teams would use in getting to the towns. So it was, that two jeeps laden with cameras and cameramen traveled in the dark, over unfamiliar roads, past sniper infested houses and woods to carry out an assignment. (They made it and made the pictures) In the jeeps were six swell guys - Hershey, Rutberg, Karlgaard, Rooney, Vita, Rocha. (Don't be modest Irv, how about yourself - Ed)

###

Coming back from their production "Army Nurse", Bob Heller and Cecil B. Morochnik told us in confidence that Jim Rooney was called, "Monsieur Schnops" by French gals thereabouts.

###

We thought that the item in last weeks' column on Lapidus' and Greenhaus' bickering would put a stop to it--but on hearing that Yale Joels' Graphic House offered Olin eight bucks a week--Manny Greenhaus screamed: "Who does dot faker Lapidus think he is..Rockerfeller?"

###

## OFFICIAL NOTES

Capt. C. I. Gillette, Press Censor, from way-back(way-back at Group HQS) is with the company for a while(we hope)...So far threats of 'C' rations, Guard, or KP, haven't influenced that hand which holds that Censor Stamp. Tough Guy..

###

Latest Seventh Army directive on safeguarding vehicles, dated 25th November states as follows;

1. No vehicle will be left unguarded; those left unattended will be picked up and impounded by the Military Police.

2. Operators will be held liable for the loss or damage to vehicles and following a Court-Marshal, will pay for the loss, if convicted of negligence.

##########

## FARE-WELL TO THE BROWN-STONE JOB

Monday should be double-hernia day at the big brown house--into the grey-stone job on Tues.

Here are three outstanding radio news pictures from this weeks big catch. (top left-Rutberg)...German prisoner helps wounded French Commando out of the line of enemy fire on outskirts of Belfort. (top right-Rutberg)...French soldier poised over worried German Captain wounded at Belfort. (lower right-Rooney)...French-manned howitzer in Mulhouse blasting German Gestapo barracks. (lower,left-Franklin). Hershey, Rutberg, Karlgaard, at Company Hdqs. following their narrow escape. (See story, Col. 1).

## TEAMS WIN PLAUDITS FOR COVERAGE IN RECORDING BIG EVENTS THIS WEEK

Swinging into a photographic offensive to keep pace with the new military push in the theater, 163rd photogs turned in some sizzling still and movie footage recording the triumphat events of the past week.

Photo teams were on the hop from the northern end of the line with the Seventh Army to the southern where the First French Army made its spectacular end run around the Nazis.

Keeping pace with the still men, the Lab worked at high speed through the nights into the dawns putting the 4x5's through the mill, forwarding the cans of movie film and speeding out the radios.

A banner radio-photo night was hit Wednesday when 20 hot news pictures were sent to Paris for transmittal to the States to give Mr. & Mrs. America pictures to illustrate the headlines. By now movie audiences are undoubtedly viewing newsreels with some of the 163rd footage. What they won't see on the screen or in the press is the sweat and risks...and blood which went into the making of these pictures. Narrow squeezes were experienced by all the teams at the front with Rutberg having the closest call last Tuesday and Vita, Rooney and Rocha getting nicked on Friday.

Seventh Army Photo Officer, Captain John J. Smith moving into Company Headquarters to join Lt Lewis, CO wanted to be on hand to spark the teams and keep close contact with results. Before returning to his lair on the river bank he stated regarding the accomplishments to date: "Members of the 163rd Signal Photo Company assigned to cover the recent 'push' are to be congratulated on their fine work. In all cases coverage was 'on top' of the news and excellent handling by the Lab personnal made it possible to expedite the material within a minimum of time. "Such service reflects great credit on all personnel charged with the duties of 'presenting the big picture' of the activities of this theater."

Adding to this accolade, CO 1st Lt Lewis said: "Swell job in spite of some tough breaks, the lesson of which should make further efforts even more successful when we get better breaks."

The 163rd holds positions at the front lined up something like this: With the First French Army at Belfort - T/4 Horne, T/4 Leibowitz, and driver Pvt M. Ross; T/3 Harris, T/4 Bornet, and driver Pfc Zidek. Recording the doings at Mulhouse after covering Belfort - T/4 Hershey, T/5 Rutberg, and driver Pfc Karlgaard; S/Sgt Vita, T/4 Rooney, and driver Prt Rocha.

With VI Corps around St Die - Lt Lueders, Pfc McCroby, and driver Boone. At St Leonard - Lt Valentine, T/4 Galbraith, and driver S. Ross.

Covering the XV Corps drive in the Sarrebourg sector which carried the front to Strassbourg - T/4 Ratick, T/5 Stubenrauch, with Pfc Anspaugh driving; T/3 Dieves, T/4 Blau and driver Pfc Hebert.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

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T/5 Robert....Editor
T/4 Liebowitz...Field Reporter
1st Sgt. Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson .....Distribution

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU UP TO ROSS?... WHERE'S THE JEEP?
ALL HAVE IT IN JUST A MOMENT LT VALENTINE IT'S RIGHT IN HERE... SOMEWHERE!
COMMITTEE
KILLED
1944
OLIN

Cartoon....

By Olin...

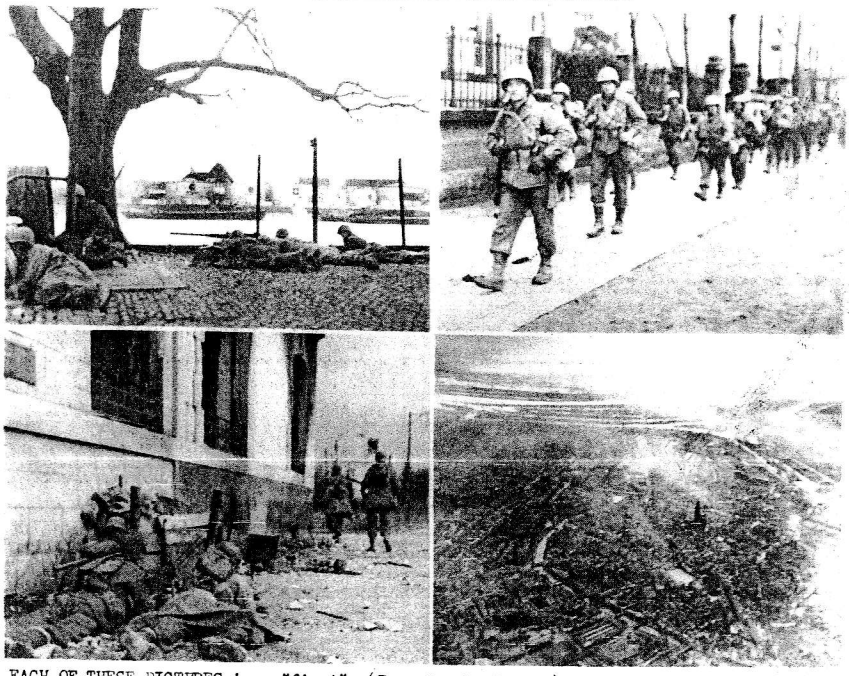
DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735-04

163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST OF [illegible] OM HQS. TO THE TEAMS [illegible] FIELD

Restricted
VOL.I NO. 4.., DEC. 4, 1944

FIRSTS [illegible] WEEK



EACH OF THESE PICTURES is a "first". (Top, L.- by Newell), One of first photos of Allied troops in action at Rhine River; (T.R.-by Noah), Strasbourg, first of troops entering city; (Below -by Blau), Aerial view of Strasbourg, first while city was being occupied; (Lower, L. - by Mc Creby), Flushing snipers in St. Die - first shots inside the scorched town.

## 163 SPEEDY EXPRESS CO. INC. MAKES NEW MOVING RECORD.... Co. Praised By Lt. Lewis

Without missing a stroke, Company Hqs, the lab., whole kit and kiboodle, moved from its luxury apartments at Luxeuil to its new air-blown home 75 miles away.

Commending Hdqs. personnel for way move was carried out, C.O. Lt. Lewis said:

"In the recent move from Luxeuil the problem of moving 75 miles without interrupting operations, on sudden notice, with limited personnel and vehicles was performed in a manner to bring credit to all officers and enlisted men concerned.

### Special Praise For Lab

"The laboratory personnel" said Lt. Lewis deserves special commendation for doing its assigned job, tearing down and setting up without missing a deadline. This was the first time Co. Hqs. and Lab. made such a move without interrupting operations".

Lt. Lewis pointed out that it took two weeks to install the Luxeuil lab. yet in a 24 hour period the old lab was vacated and a new one in operation 75 miles away. To accomplish this the lab. grave-yard shift, under Lt. Strock, worked through the nite, processing and dispatching film and at 5 A.M., without a break, began dismantling the fixtures and loading trucks.

"By daylight" said Lt. Lewis, "the job was complete and lab. and personnel on the way to the new location where the advance party had the situation well in hand. For this spirit of pitching in and doing a job quicker and better than was expected I extend my gratitude to all".

---

PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK.....
(This will introduce PFC Glenden Datzman of Indianna, known also as "Shorty", "Short-Stuff", "Short-Meat", "Little Man" and "Short-Snorter". He will conduct a weekly column giving a short view of some long personalities. We begin with a self-view by the columnist himself shown here in one of his romantic moments in Rome - Editor)

*******

In Rome most of the big boys were doing well with the gals and shorty was no exception even if he did it on a smaller scale. (He was known to the Italian gals as "Piccolo Pizon")...In his first issue of G.I. clothes, the only things that fitted him were hankies, towels, ties (almost), O.D. hat practically) and of course the shelter half. He proved one nite that he is not a half-pint but at least 4/5 of a qt. by trying to whip "Schultz" ...It might be mentioned that his membership in the boys scouts is still pending. (They are waiting until he is grown up enough. However he is a member of the Skunk Patrol of the Cub or Junior Boy Scouts.).

## * FIELD * STUFF * AND * STUFF *

163rd OVER GERMANY...One day last week, Sgt. Joseph P. Dieves and T/4 Sydney Blau each boarded a cub plane to get aerial views of Strasbourg. Aloft they could plainly see the Rhine and the Reich. After movieman Dieves rolled some footage over Strasbourg, his pilot, who always wanted to visit Germany, decided unbeknownst to Joe, to go for just a teechy weenchy hop over the Rhine...First thing you know there were pretty puffs of smoke around the plane and then more pretty puffs...and then the pilot made a quick pancake away and down...And that kiddies is the way Sgt. Joseph Dieves became the first member of 163 Sig. Photo Co to cross into Germany. (see photo section for Strasbourg still pix by Blau).

************

FIRST RHINE PIX...ED Newell came through last week with what are believed to be the first pix of Allied action at the Rhine, taken by ground cameraman. Newell, at some risk, got a number of hot action shots showing French troops engaging Nazi forces trying to flee across river to der vaterland.../ And in Strasbourg the building housing Lt. Goebells and team was hit by a 170MM shell. Only casualty was Kastelz...he stepped on a nail jumping out of bed.....

FIELD SHTUFF...Kind of field stuff Co. Hqs was more than glad to process came from Musser and Gerzen last week...the photogs obtained a case of German schnapps, apparently a gift from some Jerries glad to be safe with the Allies. Generously the cameramen shared the donation with all the gang at Hqs. Each Dept. got a bottle for which they breath a spirited "shanks boyish hic hic shanks"

PERSONNEL DEPT....on the bench at Hqs waiting for next assignment are Bornet, Harris and Zidek...Bornet seen amusing himself by getting tunes out of an old broken down pump organ which looked like it breathed its last years ago. ...Lt. Goebel got two more teams - Nemeth, Newell, James and Galbraith, Lane and E. Smith...Frye went to Lt. Coates' team to replace Galbraith...Lt. Noah returns to Hqs for while...in his place goes new 163rd photog, Pvt. Lowery...Driver, Pvt. Sargent replaces Edgar Smith at Army Hqs...Left out of Foto-Facto line up of photogs in field last issue were following teams and personnel ...with VI Corps - Olin, A. Smith, Durband, Chiappino, Gretz, Tressel, Peterson, Bell and Frate...with XV Corps - Lt. Noah and em's Kastelz, Kulpa, Gerzen, Musser and Bartlett... and at VI Army Hqs our "exile" lab crew of Langer-Bosen and driver K. Olsen have their noses to the G.I. grind-stone but we haven't heard that they are pining away for the joys and comforts (???) of Hqs.....

### NEW MEN WELCOMED

The company population was increased by nine newcomers this past week. Added to co. roster as replacements were photographers, Pvts. Kohl, Lane and Lowery. Attached for rooms, rations and regular field assignments was a photographic team from 162nd Sig. Photo Co. (Det. 'P')- 2nd Lt. Ollar, T/5's Dickerson, G.C. Smith and Weintraub and Pvt. Stark. Welcome to the family circle gentlemen -good luck and good shooting.

---

Lt. H.E. Strock, OIC , FOTO-FACTO
T/5 S. Robert....Editor
T/4 I. Leibowitz...Field Reporter
1st Sgt. P. Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

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163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST OF [illegible] HQS. TO THE TEAMS IN FIELD
Restricted
Vol.I No. 5 Dec.11 1944

* * * * *

RAPID FIRE COVER - - DANGER STREET -

(L.) Yank riflemen cover advancing troops-Lane. (R.). Enemy artillery is shelling this street in Bischwiller-Lowery. (Lane and Lowery shot these on first combat assignemnts)

## 163rd TOPS IN NEWS PHOTOS SHAEF PRO RELEASE SHOWS.

Thirty-nine per cent of all the wire photos sent from the European Theater of Operation during a one week period (Nov. 24 to Dec.1) were pictures taken by photographers of the 163rd Signal Photo Co.

This impressive fact is derived from bulletins issued by Pictorial Release Section, Public Relations Div., SHAEF. Compiled daily, these releases list (1) still pictures sent to War Department Offices of Public Relations (WDOPR) by airmail and released to hometown papers and the British press; (2) U.S. Army pictures radioed to WDOPR, Washington from London.

A study of the radio photos listed, shows that out of the 75 sent in this particular weekly period, 29 were from our company. The balance came from the various other photo companies covering the Allied armies in the ETO.

In evaluating this high 163rd score, it should be noted that the seven days covered was the period of the Allied offensive which broke into Strasbourg, Belfort and Mulhouse. The showing bears out Foto Facto report (Nov. 28):

"with the new military push...163rd photographers turned in some sizzling

(Turn to Page 2, please)

## PROF. BYARS AND GUESTS PRESENT "ENEMY CHANGES HIS TUNE"

Using a unique and original method, Lt. Byars last week presented the first of weekly current events talks and discussions. The "Professor", employing a prepared script, combined entertainment and laughs with straight, serious informative material on the topic "The Enemy Changes His Tune". He was aided by two guest speakers, "Helleroto" and "Schickelgrubman" who, with appropriate pronunciation, read those parts of script quoting from speeches made by Axis spokesmen.

Bob Heller, playing the part of the Jap, panicked the boys with his precise Japanese mimicry while Grubman emitted a remarkable non-aryan German imitation that was out of this world.

Altogether, the Lieutenant and 'Guests' succeeded in doing what most Army orientation talks fail to do - keep the men wide awake, absorbing facts and thought with laughs at the expense of the enemy. FOTO-FACTO hopes Army Morale Section takes note of Lt. Byars' methods.

## * FIELD * STUFF * AND * STUFF *

BOUQUETS...To Pvt. Norman Lowery and Pvt. Francis E. Lane, photographer replacements, now company regulars. Lowery's first frontline pack brought five hot, on the scene action shots for radio...He followed advance infantry group which was attacking and taking Rhine towns north of Strasbourg.... Lane's No. 1 pack had a dramatic news shot of riflemen in action picked for radio... Nice beginning, fellows.

*****

MAN OF THE WEEK...A company popularity poll taken this week would unquestionably choose Pvt. McCroby winner by acclaim. "Mac" while on mission north of Strasbourg found a trailer full of wine without an owner, hitched it to his jeep, brought it home for the whole family to share....Thanks, Mac, for the entire wine-happy gang.

*****

GOOD NEWS DEPT...Rooney, Vita, and Rocha, hospitalized by shrapnel wounds, are definitely on the mend...Vita is already reported chasing nurses...and Rooney, baring infection, won't lose his voice as was feared...His stories concerning life, love, and liquids will be heard again by his convivial companions...BUTBERG, HERSHEY, AND KARLGAARD, not heard from in many days, are O.K...Military situation in their sector prevented communication.

*****

HOUSING DEPT...E.M's of camera repair and supply got worst break in new billets..... They're housed in annex which has no toilets, washrooms, heat; was missing doors and windows. They call it the "Barn"...Part of lab nite crew netted attic in the main house which was packed with everything from a portable toilet to a Nazi library...Souvenir hunters scavenged in the clutter, disturbing sleeping lab men until a sign appeared posted by irate nite shifter Amendola, "Warehouse Opened Nites Only"...Said one cynic about new place, as he hoisted his double h[illegible] nia into a more comfortable position: "What's the difference, we aint going to stay here anyway"...Petite Pix: Lt. Sheppard giving his smoky stove a "blow job", a "rewoise" blow...

****

OO LA LA...On way to Paris, capital of OO LA LA, are Sgts. Bornet and Harris with a 48 hour pass, 60 francs to cover room and board and an ample supply of certain protective equipment to cover their frolicking. For Bornet, it's something of a home coming. He used to live in Paris and has relatives there...Harris who can work up more passion about curves of a violin than lots of guys can about curves on Betty Grable...Bornet and Harris, just in from field after long labors got first shot at Paris pass...others will follow. (MORE FIELD STUFF ON PAGE 2).

## RULES FOR MAILING PRINTS HOME

The Chief Base Censor, replying to a request for information made by W.O. Everett on the correct procedure in handling personal photographs; black and white stills, to be mailed home, states:

"Black and white prints or negatives should be unit censored in the same way as other material forwarded in personal communications".

In other words, personal photographs are allowed but it is up to the unit censors to decide whether the photos endanger security provisions. If unit censor believes a picture should not be passed, then it may be sent to the Chief Censor's office for further censorship. Here's the way the Chief Base Censor puts it:

"All film and prints of doubtful classification should be classified as 'confidential' and forwarded to the C/O ETO, Amateur Film Censorship Section for censorship and classification....sender should give any information that would be of aid in making decision, together with the name and address of the owner".

Cartoon.....By Olin

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FOTO-FACTO SUPPL[illegible] T

[illegible] it has enough material of interest [illegible] company, FOTO-FACTO will add a supplement to its one page editions. Mimeo paper is used because it's a far less critical item than photo paper. Since only 25 copies are published each week, FOTO-FACTO feels it is not making serious inroads on paper supply by adding such supplement.

ABOUT THAT FILTHY LUCRE

The Army is gunning for B.T.O's. (big time operators) trying to get rich quick via the black market or loot and has worked out a very simple test to judge if you got your money legitimately. Anyone possesing bank notes of over 1,000 francs, over 100 marks, or over 100 Dutch florins will be under suspicion.

WHY: Because Army pay does not include bank notes over that amount. If you have bigger notes, it means to Army G-2 that you got the money in some deal.

While G-2 is on the lookout for G.I's get-rich schemes, G.I's are warned against civilian B.T.O's out to gyp the boys and general public through forgery. Watch out for phoney 500 franc notes made to resemble U.S. Army issue money. The crooks use two methods. One is raising 100 franc notes to 500. These are painted brown with water color and can be detected by moistening - if the brown runs, you're being browned; second trick is photographic reproduction of 500 franc notes. Giveaway on these is: crisper paper, engraving faint, serial numbers closer together, shading surrounding tricolor less distinct than authentic money.

MORAL

1. DON'T TRY TO GET RICH IN THE ARMY - IF YOU WANT TO BE A RACKETEER, WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE A CIVILIAN. THERE ARE LAWS TO PROTECT YOU.
2. WATCH OUT FOR FORGED 500 FRANC NOTES - PUT YOUR MONEY IN WAR BONDS, SOLDIER'S SAVINGS, OR SEND IT HOME.

Lt. H.E. Strock, O.I.C.
T/5 S. Robert...Editor
T/5 Kendzierski...Tech. Asst.
1st Sgt. P. Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

** FIELD STUFF * AND * STUFF **

PERSONNEL DEPT...Lt. B.C. Noah has been designated company S-3...Welcomed this week was another team from 162nd Sig Photo Co.--Lt. J.D. Moors, T/4 Cohen, T/4 Todd, T/5 Beatty, T/5 Boone, Pvt. Bowen -- who like Det "P" will operate as regular team with our company...162nders Lt. Ollar and T/4 Rosenblum with driver Ed Smith, joined Lt. Coates...Morochnik went to Lt. Geobel, replacing Nemeth who is on sick book...Fenberg substituted Stubenrauch with Lt. Coate Lt. Meade's special production crew went to Besancon to complete feature story...Leibowitz, Horne, and Ross blew in from Belfort Saturday nite, blue in the face with cold and chock-full of things to tell...T/3 [illegible] went to hospital for ear treatment.

163rd TOPS IN NEWS PHOTOS

(continued from page 1)

stills and movie footage...recording the events".

It also proves that Seventh Army Photo Officer Capt. Smith wasn't talking through his helmet when he said, "The photographers were to be congratulated...in all cases, coverage was 'on top' of the news..."

While almost all pictures were listed without any critiques, a number of those not radioed were singled out for praise and here again, 163rd cameramen stood out. A study of this special comment shows that out of total of four "excellents", three went to men of 163rd. Out of four "very good" ratings, two were our photographers. "Excellent" appeared next to series by Lt. H. Valentine, "Refugees of Corcieux Returning to Homes". Leibowitz and Harris got "Very Good" for their pix, "French Troops Taking Belfort". Rooney and Rutberg, "Excellent" for "French Troops in Mulhouse Area". Yale Lapidus "Good" for "General Eisenhower Visits American Fronts".

That movie coverage may also provide still is shown with the listing of clips taken from Gerzen's coverage "Captured German Officers in Strasbourg" for which he got the critique "Good". One of these clips was picked for a telephoto.

All the bulletins from which this data was taken will be available to the photographers in the field.

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163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA VERBORUM

WEEKLY DIGEST of news fro HQS TO TEAMS IN THE FIELD
Vol. I No. 6
DEC. 18,1944
RESTTRICTED

## TIRE SITUATION SERIOUS SAY "IKE" AND OLSEN

When General Eisenhower turns his attention from direct military matters to talk about conservation of tires, it must be pretty serious.

And here's how serious it is. In a memorandum dated Dec. 2nd addressed to all officers and enlisted men, ETO, General "Ike" said,

"I am not exaggerating when I say that the war will be needlessly extended unless we extract every possible mile from our tires and use them only as we find necessary to do so."

General Eisenhower said, "We are now faced with a tire shortage (in ETO) which will, unless drastic conservation steps are taken, deadline ten percent of our vehicles by the first week of February."

Applying this to our own company, S/Sgt Olsen told FOTO-FACTO that the per cent has already been reached in the 163rd. Two jeeps are now deadlined because no tire replacements are available. He added that the rate of tire salvage in this company is higher than it should be.

"Mr. Everett and I", said the hard-working motor Sgt., "have been fighting for two days now to get tires without any luck"..."there just isn't any to get and when those on the wheels now are gone, we'll be riding on the rims."

To save tires, Olsen urged drivers to observe these three rules:

1. Don't ride on flats.
2. Don't speed on rough, choppy roads.
3. Maintain proper tire pressure.

TRANSFERED: 1t. Samuel Roper Shephard has been "upped" to Seventh Army Hdqs as asst. Photo Officer to Capt. John J. Smith.

## PERSONALITIES as seen.....By Datzman

BROOKLYN REFUGEE. Morris Del-Hayden Ratick, ETO from the "coast" in a moment of admiration, trying to flick a bit of dust off Adolph's eyeball- with his tongue. "Mersha" doesn't always look as pictured here and is known to be a sharpie in civilian life. Altho he knows most of the famous stars in Hollywood he says, "as a civilian I'm content - to live in my little oak tree in front of Goldwitz's Delicatessen, and work at my job of dusting off camera lenses". Some of "Mersha's" famous sayings are: "It should happen to a dog, what happens to me", "It, she, or he, stinks", "Isn't she gorjus", "What a beautiful body". Del's selection for the "dream team" is: driver, Ratik, M.P. man, Nelson, Still Man, Parrish, Snow.

AT THE BORDER

INSIDE REICH

(L). For these two Yanks, posed at border marker, entering Germany means chance to have picture taken.-Fenberg. (R). Inside Germany infantrymen in Wissembourg Forest guard against counter-attack.- Gretz

## 163RD ENTERS GERMANY -- SO DOES SEVENTH ARMY

Photographers of the 163rd SIGNAL PHOTO CO crossed over into Germany the afternoon of Friday, December 15 to record the entrance of Seventh Army troops into the Third Reich.

Thus, the 163rd began another and perhaps, its final chapter in the geographical chase in the Western Hemisphere which started in North Africa, pursued the Tunisian Campaign, recorded the Sicilian struggle, landed at Salerno, followed the tortuous military route up the Italian boot, came ashore on the Riveria Coast, followed the Seventh Army in its swift sweep northward and now marches with them in the closing rounds on the home soil of the hated enemy.

From the Graphics of T/4 Fenberg and T/5 Albert Gretz came the first still pictures of the historic event. From the Eyemos of S/Sgt Chiappino and T/4 Ratick came the first movie record. Fenberg, Ratick, and driver Anspaugh with the 45th Div., Gretz, Chiappino and driver Tressel with the 103rd Division, accompanied the spearheads of these organizations over the border. The same night their film was at the laboratory and in the early hours of Saturday morning, on the way to Paris, London, and thence to America.

### Camera Record

There was no fanfare or shouting when the Americans crossed over the border. The honesty of the camera will show that this event that electrified millions occurred casually, almost drab as small groups of Yanks walked from one piece of battleground called France to another and more difficult one called Germany.

Some of the scenes were enacted in the forests where light was poor and film history will show the slow, cautious, advance of our troops among the trees.

One scene will show three infantrymen huddled against a bank of German earth, watching for the enemy; another, a doughfoot quickly digging a hole into German soil while his comrades protect his labors with their rifles; and a third, three Yanks slouching between trees and fording a thin stream of water -- crossing into the Reich.

These pictures are already familiar to millions who, in their morning paper and on the screens, have seen and are seeing the realities of war which they would not know if it were not for the cameras of the Signal Corps. Elsewhere, solemn, keen-eyed military men are studying the pictures for the information they seek.

On the company records, this was just another assignment in the long road home.

## WANTED....WANTED....LETTERS

FOTO-FACTO would like to establish a Mail Bag department with news, views, snitches, and itches from its readers. If you've got something on your mind, or something you'd like to share with the rest of the company, give with a few words on a sheet of paper. There's a FOTO-FACTO mail box in the Day Room for those at headquarters while men in the field can send contributions through the regular courier addressed to FOTO-FACTO.

FOTO-FACTO reserves the right to edit and shorten communications in the interests of security and according to space requirements. All letters must be signed but names will be with-held on request.

Watch your tires -don't delay the wheels of victory .....

IN THE FIELD With OLIN

DECLASSIFIED
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** FIELD * STUFF * AND STUFF

HONOR ROLL...Pvt Russell Hebert, driver for team No. C-3, was commended by his team for outstanding record as "jeep pilot". The commendation, in the form of a letter to C.O. Lt. Lewis, was signed by the team N.C.O. Sgt. Dieves.

*****

TOUGH LUCK DEPT...Enemy fire began coming toward American troops at Maginot Line position and Ed Newell, covering the scene, hopped for cover with everyone else...in the scramble, he dropped his camera...At that moment, a jeep driver decided to back out just whereEd's camera lay...P.S. Newell is shooting with a new Graphic...Movieman Ed. Kastelz was riding the back end of a tank during the battle for Hagueneau when an enemy A.T. gun went after it - the tank did some fast sudden turning, shedding Kastelz from the hull to the ground...he was slightly bruised...P.S. He thinks he got some hot footage though.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK...Mike Polito and Charley Reynolds not only shaved, one day last week, they also washed their faces..."Clippy Kentucky" Glenn wore his shoes all day long - says he's getting used to it now...Duchene almost had his record of all day in bed upset...some his com-rats carried him out on his cot into the hallway...Duchene woke up, slightly, found he was still in bed and went back to sleep...Clerk Merritt had a birthday but wouldn't give his age..."Zebra" Barr got a food parcel and a letter from someone he didn't know - it was addressed to M. Barr, 163rd Sig. Photo. - the parcel had among other items, a hunk of Polish salami...Fritz Reitnauer, "went out a little", and Jones & Kimbel put their stamp of approval on the town - which anyone familiar with the Jones-Kimbel Institute of Guaranteed Good Clean Fun - that's equal to the Good Housekeeping Institute Stamp of Approval in civilian life. It seems that "Smiles" Horne is having "flame" trouble...Rumors say that his Hollywood girl friend is lighting up for someone else.

*****

NOTE TO THE KITCHEN: Best exhibit for your cooking is "Shutter" Owens...he entered the army weighing 128 pounds; he now weighs 170. ..they say he found a home in the army --- while George Bialkowski, who weighed 230 pounds when arrived overseas, has dropped to around 160.

*****

HOUSING DEPT...Lt. Southworth and team have their own interesting problems with housing; He writes: "I have moved to the time-bombed city of Belfort...the building in which they (the team) are living or were, is due to go up or out any minute...such a condition is causing confusion...And at Hqs., SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED TO BUNKS - it's a double decker cot conceived and designed by 1st Sgt Satterwhite to relieve room congestion and built by Master Builder Sloan...it's a wooden frame with one cot setting on the floor and the other above it ceilingward on supports Jimmy Feather on upper level says it's so high he has to use an oxygen tank...one nite I slept with my head in a cloud. Boy, was it foggy...another upper-bunker suggests sleeping with a parachute just in case anyone rolls out of bed while Irv. Leibowitz wants to go the new bunks one better: "Why not suspend cots from the ceiling", He says.

*****

REPORT ON PARIS: Bornet, Harris, Zidek, and Pratt had their Paris fling and liked it... each say Gay Paree his own way...Bornet looked up old cronies, watched the "lady" parade at Le Cafe De La Paix, got high and rode on the fender of a Paris taxi...Zidek conducted an intimate investigation into the charms of Parisian femininity and returned less wealthy but highly content...Harris and Pratt went cultural, attended Chamber Music concert at Red Cross, walked themselves leg-weary. Harris came back with a fiddle. Allotment of four men monthly to company will be divided 75% to fieldmen, 25% to Hqs...Selection will be by C.O. based on deserving record...

*****

MISCL...Big Xmas show with more than a dozen acts being cooked up by promoters Albanese and Heller...surprises are promised...T/5 Robert got a touching Xmas gift from lab crew...it was a hand truck, gaily decorated with a red ribbon..just what "Muscles" wanted.

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FOTO-FACTO
Lt. H.E. Strock, O.I.C.
T/5 Robert...Editor
T/5 Kendzierski...Tech. Ass't.
1st Sgt. Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735-049

...RESTRICTED...
VOL. 1, NUMBER 2, 20 NOV.1944

Lt H.E. Strock, OIC FOTO-FACTO
T/5 Robert--EDITOR
T/4 Liebowitz--Stuff from Field.
1st Sgt Satterwhite--Local Stuff
T/5 Pierson ---- Distribution.

# 1[illegible] SIGNAL PHOTO CO
# FOTO FACTO
## OR DIGNA X VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST NEWS FROM HQS TO THE TEAMS IN THE FIELD...

-: LT. BRINN MOVES TO NEW JOB :-

1st Lt Don Brinn, photographic ace and aces high with the men of the 163rd has been snatched from Patch by SHAEF for a more responsible job with the 3120 Signal Service Bn.

"Pappy" penned this note to his friends whom he reluctantly deserts to be dragged upstairs:

"I take this opportunity to say to you and the men in the field, that I have enjoyed working with each and every one of you. You are good soldiers and a good gang of damn fine guys. Good luck to you".....

Good Luck to you, Lt Brinn, we'll remember you as a swell officer and a swell guy.....

* * * *

SUPPLIES ZERO'D

T/Sgt Frank (it's a deal) DeToro, puffed dreamily at his corona-corona. "Ah, Italy, those were the days-I was able to get everything. But now....." He laboriously removed his feet from his desk and shouted--"HESTER", show him those requisitions"

Frank's finger went down the list, "Zero, zero, nothing but zeros, which means 'no Got' " He displayed three requisitions--out of 57 items asked for, 37 were zeroed. Among them were shirts, pants, mess equipment, steel brushes for the kitchen, etc.

"And that's why", said Frank, "I'm asking the fellows not to be snafus and abuse equipment--you can't replace the stuff now"

At this point Rube Schneider, stroked his hair and said, 'yessir it's sure bad', even Albanese can't get the stuff now" .....

.TOUJOUR L'AMOUR, TOUJOUR.

Lovelorn mademoiselles waiting for a letter from GI Casanovas who promised-among many other things-to write; GI wolves who are making a collection of love-letters from waiting mademoiselles --each may now write to one another according to a new ruling which permits communication with civilians in liberated areas of North west Europe, subject to 100% Base censorship or censorship of the indigenous government, addressed with normal military return adress... delivered by the Postal Authorities to the postal service of the indigenous* government...

(* Indigenous--a tree which sheds it's leaves in winter,,we think)

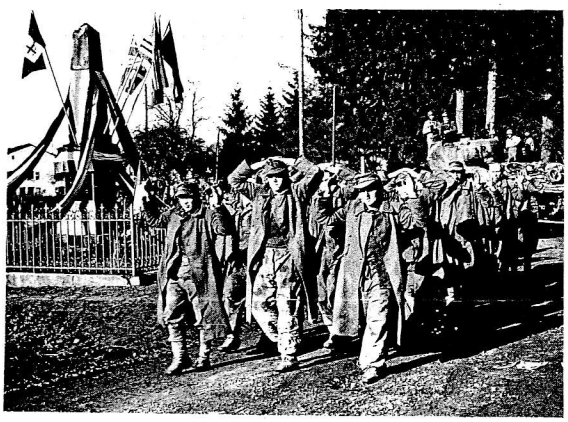
* * * * *

...GIVE THE KIDS* A BREAK...

There's a box in the day-room for all 'unwanted candy' to be given to the kids at Christmas Time. Looks like only hard candy so far--well we might get something for the table.....

* Not for the Kid that got into your glove compartment.....

* * * * *



...PAST AND PRESENT...

Taken in the hills around Couthenans by tankmen of the 1st Army driving on Belfort, these Germans are reminded of an earlier failure as they pass a World War I memorial decorated with flags of the United Nations.(Liebowitz, for Radio)

* * * * *

THANKS,FOR WHAT?
--: An Editorial. :--

A thought that may come to mind of some on Thanksgiving Day is "Thankful for What?"

Individually millions of people, that includes you and I, don't have too much to be thankful for on this third year of war since Pearl Harbor. Collectively, however we can find much to be thankful for--especially we Americans! We've seen enough of wrecked towns and wrecked lives over here to breathe a prayer of thanks that not one city, town or hamlet has been turned into rubble--thanks to the fact that the Axis was stopped before it could roll our way. The lights are burning in the US, and the old gal in New York harbor still hold aloft her lighted torch.

Our families are safe and the forty-eight states just got through an unmolested session of name-calling which ended on November 7th when of their own free will, they elected a President of Our United States for four more years.

We are winning the war and the chances are that a lot of us will get home before we're quite eligible for old-age pensions. America will be waiting for us, unharmed and undamaged, and able to offer us the kind of life we seek, if we are wise enough to keep it from bad hands and bad ways. We are thankful that hopes of the past have come true, and for the faith in the conviction that we may again have that joy of a Thanksgiving dinner with loved ones seated at that same festive board.....

* * * * *

THANKSGIVING DAY JAMBOREE
AT COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

All members of the 163rd are cordially invited to a Thanksgiving Day Get-To-Getber Thursday 23rd November.

The PROGRAM (we hope)

Turkey with trimmings (if obtainable)--Movies
Entertainment, (company talent--there's some)
Gals (Do you know any--don't be gutteral-you)
Admission, Free-you are doing the cooks a favor.

It is to be hoped that your assignments permit coming. There are many faces that haven't been seen lately.

* * * * * * * *

-: 165th PHOTO PRAISED :-
for COMBAT PICTURES.

The Army Signal Photo Service, ridiculed and laughed at by some of the commercial press, during the early days, is now coming into its own. Outstanding records for quantity and quality of coverage is winning recognition from some of the severest critics and scoffers of the past. The latest of this is the high praise paid to the 16[illegible]O. by TIME Magazine in a recent issue.

FOTO-FACTO reprints the story, at the same time saluting the feats of a brother company.

"Though the battle had barely ended, many US citizens, last week, were seeing for themselves a lot of what had happened at AACHEN. For the excellent photographic coverage of the First Army campaign in newsreel and newspapers, most of the credit belonged to a small brave group of men comprising the 165th Signal Photographic Company.

"Laden with assorted cameras, the Signal Corps G.I's of the 165th this week were again pressing close to the front, ducking fire with the infantry. As usual their two-fold mission was: 1. to bring back newspictures of the US troops in action; 2) to record as many battle details as possible for the War Department archives. Like scores of similar companies on other battlefronts, they had had a high proportion of casualties(7 dead, 14 were wounded, three captured out of 62)* But their work had paid off by making the battles of World War II, the best understood in history.

" WRONG WAY PIGEON "

"Part of their professional grief was the helpless frustration of losing hundreds of good shots. In the rush of D-Day, many exposures were ruined, and many negatives lost. One photographer who landed with paratroops lost one movie and two still cameras while retreating under fire, barely managed to save another still camera to record the first few days of action. Severely wounded, another was forced to destroy all his exposed films when capture became inevitable.

First lieutenant, Martin Lederhandler, a former Associated Press photographer, had the most vexing experience.

(continued to page 2)

* * * * *

THE MAYOR SAYS THANKS.

THE Mayor of LUXEUIL sent the company a note of thanks on behalf of the local populace, addressed to--"aux officiers, sous officiers et soldats----- d'une section de votre formation--qui ont participe a la ceremonie et au defile et qui ont ausi contribue a en rehausser l'eclat " (According to Cpl Jones--"T'anks youse mugs for gettin all togged up in your Sunday suit and makin wid the hep-hep and salutes on Armistice Day")

* * * * *

-: SO SORRY, McCROBY :-

By error, the photo appearing in the last issue of FOTO-FACTO was credited to Liebowitz. The picture was taken by Pvt Brazle J. McCroby, Jr. The error was due to a rather heavy concentration of 163rd Phtogs at the particular point. (Liebo won't get on Brazle's shoulders again). Ed.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735 GHQ

SURPRISE: M/ Sgt (Zebra) Barr received a weighty package from the States,(who said he didn't have a friend in the world). Drooling with expectations,Bill opened the package, stuck in a hand and pulled out the first can..it was a can of Vienna Sausage---and Gregory(Meat-ball) Amendola out-grubbed Grubman. The other night he got six food packages-..various Italian delicasies. His room number is 51 in the annex. He also got two salamisis. Yes, his number is 51-top.

* * *

BUTTON-BUTTON..Checking the portrait of a certain high-ranking officer, Lt Boyle found the pocket unbuttoned. Putting his well known ingenuity to work, the Lt. saved the day with a delicate tailoring job--he cut the missing button from one photo, pasted it onto the erring pocket and rephotographed the job - saving the threatened morale of every pocket-conscious garrison soldier in the army.....

* * * *

PATERNITY..On a window sill in room 51 is a picture of a young pretty woman..beside it stand two tiny brown baby shoes. The lady is Mrs Leon Nagle, and the shoes are from the feet of Leon's two-year, blond-haired, brown-eyed son named Glen. Nagel has been married 35 months, in the Army 28, overseas 22.."It's been a tight sqeeze" says Leon..... Other papas in the company include James (Clippy) Glenn, who carries around pictures of a doll named Geraldine--his two year old daughter..Lab-man Ed Schwarz's blessed event came while he was overseas..he has a blond-haired, blue-eyed son named James who is already walking, and is supposed to have asked, 'Say, Mom, how's Pop doing with the French babes'.....

* * * *

LEFT BEHIND in hospitals in Italy when the company moved, "Ziggy" Kendzierski and Edgar Smith are now on French soil on their way back to the company.. ...Still sleeping on white linen and eyeing the nurses..are patients Luper, Greenhaus and Frye. We hear Frye will be out very soon. Best wishes to the others for a quick mend.....

* * * *

SUPPLY has obtained two Swiss wrist watches for the company-Sgt DeToro will raffle them off on Thanksgiving Day. So here's your chance to get a Swiss-wris wash.....

* * *

. SIG: FFICE ASKS MORE CARE IN DATA ON ALL CAPTIONS..

The office of the Chief Signal Officer, in a Memo signed by Col. Edw. L. Munson Jr., Chief of Army Pictorial Service, notes that the DATES on some captions for still pictures are not the actual date on which the picture was made.

Photographers are asked to furnish the actual date that the picture was taken "so that historical records as shown in Signal Corps pictures may be accurate."

"If the actual date is not available, an approximate date should be given, and the fact that the date is approximate so stated".....

"The Army Pictorial Service is constantly called upon to furnish the date on which specific Signal Corps pictures were taken, notably from the casualty branch, Adjutant General's office...." This date must always be the date on which the picture was taken, not any other date.....

* * * *

..165 th Con'T..

* On D-Day he entrusted a carrier pigeon with some 35 m/m negatives, then watched the bemused bird head for the enemy lines. Weeks later he saw reproductions of his pictures on the front page of a German Army newspaper found in Cherbourg--under them was the legend-'Photo by Lt Martin Lederhandler, U.S. Army Signal Corps.... Despite such setbacks the 165th established a high record of battle performance from its start. Chiefly responsible for its early record was the company Commander Capt. Herman V. Hall# who lost a leg on the Normandy beach-head. When he was evacuated to England on the night of D-Day, Captain Hall mindful of his job took back the outfit's negatives for speedy distribution...

For his courage and resourcefulness Capt Hall got the Distinguished Service Cross. Of the 62 men in the 165th, two have won the Silver Star, Six have won the Bronze Star,and one sergeant has been promoted on the battle field to Second lieutenant.

But most of the recognition they receive is an anonymous credit line: US Army Signal Corps."....

(# Should be Wall, not Hall.)

* * *

SUGGESTED theme song for Snafu's--'Neither rain nor sleet nor darkness of night ..' To the cry of WHAT NO PICTURES!', Our boys are hounding the tankmen dogfaces and cannoneers in weather that shouldn't of happened to Civilian Correspondents..Typical team report:Heavy rain all day, dull overcast, only ones out were ducks and they are carrying umbrellas... SOME still combat stuff by Gretz, Lt Valentine and Misser have made the Radio Photo..Recent film seen at the company included some cinema-terrific stuff made by the late Steve Hall....

* * * *

Recent loss of Lt Don Brinn (Chaplin) is no cause for crying towels-he was kicked upstairs, where he can do more g good. Honest! ..... YALE Joel Lapidus, and Manny Greenhaus, dickering with photogs to work for them after the war, were last seen scratching out each others eyes. Lapidus offered Nilo Olin 8 bucks a week. Said Nilo "I won't work for 8 bucks Eileen Darby, or no E.D." ..."Goodbye Mr. Chiappino" who must be busy on the Division front has all the Hqs gang asking---- "Where's Chips?"..... JUMPING Ed Peterson was overheard saying"Aw this gang is alright, but I ain't ever going to do a jump again.(Are you kiddin, Pete?).....

* * * *

RUMORS of 'Occupation Photographers' has one Edgar (say fellas my Knee) Bensen, limping like mad..... AFTER waiting for two years, Jack(yeh yeh) Harris, finally got to see his brother--a War Correspondent who came into France with the Normandy bunch.

* * * *

RECENT Combat Bulletins include much footage by the Eyemos of Johnny Vita Elby Fenberg, Jim Horne, Ed Peterson, Joe Dieves, Fred Bornet and Bill Nemeth.....

* * *

. OUR STAKE IN FRANCE .

On the eve if the Invasion of France, FORTUNE magazine published an editorial called "France-the American Stake" FORTUNE is a magazine expressing national economic interests and does not speak lightly or from boyish idealism. The sub-title for the editorial is"Not Sentiment But Hard-head National Interest Dictates the Restoration of French Freedon and Security"

We reprint one paragraph, giving the crux of the argument:

.."American soldiers are not fighting for or against De Gaulle. Neither are they fighting because France happens to be a nice place. Nor because it is one of the great cultural centers of the world. If Americans are to lay down their lives in France, the stakes must be defined in terms of American interest. And the American interest in France goes beyond sentiment and beyond the fact that France is part of the civilization out of which the U.S. was born. The American interest lies precisely in the fact that the security and freedom of France are essential to the security and freedom of Europe. And two World Wars have shown that without a secure Europe there is no security, no peace, for the U.S. either".....

* * * * *

..CREDITS..

The idea for the company paper was motivated by Irv Liebowitz (Lt Strock still picks the picture) Lt Boyle, M/Sgt Barr and Sgt Bialkowski collaborated on the copy job, using repolith film for the black and white text...copied the photos separately and put the both together..double-printing. Lt Lewis typed the copy and threw some salt into it...S/Sgt Vita does the art work and Olin the cartoons..the rest do the kibitzing.....

* * * *

..MOVIE SLATES..

A complaint of long standing from the Army Pictorial Division Theater representatives is the lack of caption on the film---the'slate.' Some of the MP men consistently use slates and make the editors happy, some slate, but focus or center so badly that the slate is useless..others don't slate at all. For those who do not have a slate, new ones are now being made, pocket size, easy to use while the footage in the camera is being cleared, or at the tag-end of the roll...

* * * * *

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735 419

. . R E S T R I C T E D. . . .
VOL. 1, NUMBER 1. 12 NOV. 1944

Lt H.E. Strock, OIC FOTO-FACTO .
T/5 Robert--EDITOR .
T/4 Liebowitz--Stuff from Field.
1st Sgt Satterwhite--Local Stuff
T/5 Pierson ---- Distribution.

# 16 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
# FOTO FACTO
## OR DIGNA Y VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST NEWS FROM HQS TO THE TEAMS IN THE FIELD...

FDR IS RE-ELECTED
SMITH GOES TO 7th ARMY
LEWIS IS NEW CO. C. O

Along with the news that the Chief in the White House stays another 4 years the Seventh Army Special Order of Nov 7th gave Capt J.J. Smith--Commanding Officer of the 163rd since April 1944 a new job as Photo Officer of Seventh Army. Capt Smith replaces Capt. Ahbe who went to 6th Army Group as Photo-Officer. Capt Lord, formerly with 6th Army Group is now with PRO. Lt Robert L. Lewis, former Executive Officer of the 163rd was appointed the new C. O.

* * * *

'NO, YOU CAN'T WEAR IT! '

The latest directives from Army HQs on UNIFORM REGULATIONS rescind the previous instructions and prescribes the following as the proper dress to be worn whether in rear or the forward areas;
UNIFORM: O D or Combat Clothing.
HEADGEAR: Helmet and/or liner. Steel helmet is mandatory when forward of Corps rear boundary. Liners only may be worn rear of this line providing the steel shell is immediately available. The WOOL KNIT CAP may be worn ONLY under the liner.....
Other fashion notes in order are like this: SWEATERS can not be worn as an outer garment. COATS, optional, keep them buttoned though. When wearing a pair of leggings, combat boots or if you're lucky enough to have shoepacs --keep the trousers neatly tucked inside.....
WEAPONS-Only GI weapons may be carr'd rear of Division rear boundary. The M Ps have orders to confiscate other types of weapons. Carry NO weapons of any kind on pass--this includes items like razors and all knives except the common pocket knife, Ml. Exception--- Officers may wear GI side-arms at all times. Concealed weapons may NOT be packed by the GI--but a weapon in a shoulder holster is not considered to be a concealed weapon. (NOTE, This order said nothing about mixed underwear at bed-time)

* * * * *

.. 163rd PARADES ON ARMISTICE DAY..

A platoon of 163rders, led by Lt W.E. Kieft, took part in the Armistice day Ceremonies at Luxeuil, Nov. 11, which paid tribute to Allied war dead, and to the famed Lafayette Escadrille, based in Luxeuil in World War I. A special tribute was given the CG of the 36th Div. This outfit ousted the Jerry from the city of hot baths in World War II. The Army commander reviewed the troops, accompanied by visiting dignitaries and the new CO of the 163rd. Lt Southworth and T/4 Horne got the lineal footage, while Fenberg, Liebowitz and McCrobie did the 4x5 coverage.....

* * * *

'LE MOMENT de SALUT' AT ARMISTICE DAY SERVICE (Liebowitz)

* * * * *

INTRODUCING
'FOTO-FACTO'

"FOTO-FACTO" will be a weekly effort to provide a tie between the 'family' at headquarters and the breadwinners in the field. By this page it is hoped that the week's summary of information can be presented to all concerned with the 163rd's activities. Featured will be the 'Picture of the Week', selected by the Lab. officer, a cartoon by Olin (we hope), notes on the work of cameramen and items for the entire company who are attempting to improve that 'OVER-ALL PICTURE' of the activities of the Seventh Army. For the present, distribution is limited to one copy for each team, four copies at company, and two at Army Photo.

* * * * *

RECENT COMBAT NEWSREELS
REVIEWED BY SHAEF P.R.O.

Pictorial Releases Section, PRD, SHEAF, in its latest "Analysis of Current US Newsreel Film", says in part;-

"All British newsreels last week featured the street fighting in Aachen, which was among the best footage on combat we have seen."

"We are getting good film coverage from the 6th Army Group, especially from the men covering the Japanese-American outfit down there."

"It has been noted lately that several of the Special Production units seem to be shooting large amounts of film without reason or control, although several of their men turned in some of the best combat film made during the taking of Aachen---examples of poor shooting and overshooting***1400 ft inside cafe, 4500 ft** Negro Artillery outfit**no action, badly shot, close-ups missing***many staged scenes***very amateurish--" and unquote.....

* * * * *

MEDICAL OFFICER will be at the company. WED AT 1330 to give SHOTS for Small-pox, Typhus & Typhoid.....

BONNARD AWARDED
LEGION OF MERIT

T/3 William F. Bonnard, Jr. was presented with Legion of Merit medal by Capt J.J. Smith, Seventh Army Photo Officer, at a company ceremony on the 7th of November. The award was ordered by Lt Gen. Patch, the Army Commander, in recognition of 'exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services as a combat photographer'. Fred has four landings to his credit; Port Lyautey, North Africa; Gela, Sicily; Anzio and Southern France. He covered the Tunisian and Italian campaigns and was following the French up to Hitlers front yard when Rotation caught up to him. This was quite a shock..it was finally through the persuasion of T/3 Cuca (also on orders to the States) that the two set out for another landing--without a Phrase Book. Congratulations and good luck to both.

* * * *

18 MEN OF 163 RECEIVE
THE GOOD CONDUCT AWARD.

Recognized for 'faithful performance of duty and the kind of behavior deserving emulation' by an order from Capt Smith, these men of the 163rd received the Good Conduct Award;

T/3 Joseph E. Hanson
T/4 James W. Horne
T/4 Hugh Turner
T/5 Jimmie Bosen
T/5 Omer R. Duchene
T/5 Gerald M. Franklin
T/5 James M. Glenn
T/5 Kenneth M. Kimbel
T/5 Leon G. Nagel
T/5 Jerry Rutberg
T/5 Thomas C. Smith
T/5 Robt. Stubenrauch
T/5 Debs L. Szymanski
Pfc Harry D. Boone
Pvt Paul C. Anspaugh
Pvt Brazle McCrobie, Jr.
Pvt Edward J. Schwarz
Pvt James Shindledecker

The presentation of the awards was made by Lt Lewis, who followed with brief speech accepting the responsibilities as commanding officer and pointing out that full-filling the mission of the 163rd was one responsibility that fell upon each officer and enlisted man in the company.

* * * *

TO ALL DRIVERS

CWO Everett warns all drivers to be at ALL times with a drivers license; Trip Ticket..properly filled out, and the Accident Report, form #26..... From the number of Reports of Violation it is evident that this information didn't get to the field soon enough. The Army means business--- and we will and must comply. Leave the civilians OUT of all vehicles-- drive with caution and save lives & irreplaceable equipment.....

NOTE: PRESTONE is coming and the ORD. people hope it will beat the first freeze--DRAIN THAT RADIATOR IF YOU HAVE TO.....GOTTA SAVE IT !.....

* * * *

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CONFIDENTIAL

L-1170

HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758 US ARMY

RLL:hbm
19 January 1945

SUBJECT: Company History

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U. S. Army
Attn: Historian

1. In compliance with Circular No. 34, Section IV, Headquarters Seventh Army, dated 28 November 1944, history of the 163d Signal Photographic Company for period of 15 December 1944 to 15 January 1945 is submitted herewith.

Robert L. Lewis
ROBERT L. LEWIS
Capt., Signal Corps
Commanding

1 Incl:
Co Hist (trip)
w/1 incl.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

David Dickinson Capt
22 Apr 46
XIR

5G-CO-143-0.1

JAN 8 1951

1747
Master

CONFIDENTIAL

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Authority 735-019

HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758 US ARMY

COMPANY HISTORY
(Period: 15 Dec 44 to 15 Jan 45)

1. This period started off by the company being honored with a visit by Colonel Lawton, Photo Officer, PRD, SHAEF, along with Lt. McWade. Colonel Lawton made the trip down to look over the company and discuss a few items of importance with both Captain Lewis, Commanding Officer of the 163d and Captain Smith, Photo Officer, Seventh Army.

2. December 25th saw most of the enlisted men and officers all together to enjoy a fine Christmas dinner and entertainment.

3. The Organization's observance of New Years was cut short early in the evening by notice from Seventh Army that the company was to pack up and move immediately from Saverne to a place farther to the rear. All sections began at once to pack up and by 0100 hours on 2 January, the first vehicle left Saverne to go to a predetermined location 1 mile East of Luneville (V 6099), a distance of 51 miles. By evening of the same day the major portion of the company had moved. Our stay at the new location was short-lived. The building had been requisitioned by another unit prior to our moving. On the 3rd of January scouting parties were sent out and a new area was found in Magnieres (V 8813). The following day, 4 January, the company was again on the move to Magnieres. Headquarters and billeting space for personnel was established in one building while the Laboratory was set up in another building a few blocks away.

4. During the period covered by this report Stars and Stripes began using daily photos from the 163d. The access to rapid engraving facilities by Stars and Stripes made this procedure possible.

5. On 2 January, Lt Moors and a driver, both attached from the 162d Signal Photo Company made a trip to Marseilles for the purpose of expediting the shipment of photographic supplies to this Headquarters. They returned as soon as the mission was completed.

6. On orders from the Photo Officer, Seventh Army, three photo teams with the French in the Belfort and Mulhouse Sector were recalled to provide coverage on another sector of the front.

7. In order to speed up the delivery of film to Paris and London from this Headquarters a courier system, long established with Photo Officers in the field and Army, was put into effect between the 163d and Nancy. This results in the saving of approximately 8 to 12 hours, a very important factor in the release of "Spot News" pictures by Paris and Motion Picture film in London.

8. On 10 January Lieutenants Schmidt and McWade from PRD, SHAEF again paid the company a visit for a few days for the purpose of discussing further the supply and courier problems with which the company is faced.



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9. Photo Team No. 25, composed of 1st Lt Byars, Tec 4 Blau and Pfc Luper, was given the special assignment of covering the activities of Lt. General Patch. To date most of the coverage made shows the General touring the forward areas; talking to the men in the lines, indicating the personal interest he takes in the troops under his command.

10. Changes in personnel:

a. 1st Lt Robert L. Lewis, Commanding Officer, promoted to the grade of Captain per special orders, Seventh Army.
b. 1st Lt Joseph D. Boyle returned to U. S. on temporary duty per special orders, Seventh Army.
c. 1 enlisted man assigned to company to fill T/O vacancy.
d. Promotions were effected for 20 enlisted men.

11. Awards and decorations:

PURPLE HEART
S/Sgt John Vita
Tec 4 James Rooney
Pvt Raymond Rocha

12. Attached are the editions of "FOTO-FACTO" covering the period of this report.

13. The activities of units in the field are shown below in extracts taken from reports submitted by photo officers:

a. 45th Div, 24 Dec: Went to take pictures of about 75 men who were rescued after being town of Bundenthal for 7 days surrounded by Germans and pill-boxes. 4-man patrol sent in every night and yesterday found them for the first time. We were strafed on the way. Jerry still has planes.
b. Shot 100 ft of JU88 plane that crashed into road leading to Schonau. 2 stills made. It's being cleared away. Proceeded to an OP behind still-held town of Schonau. Quite a feeling. Artillery coming at us into town. MPs and stills shot on shelling, infantrymen digging foxholes.
c. VI Corps, 1 Jan: Attended Corps briefing. Corps warning to be on alert proved to be a sound one. Jerry threw in counter-attacks against elements of the 45th Division and against Task Force Huddleston. Penetrations to line made and Jerry infiltrated positions. Small arms fire in CP of Task Force Huddleston. Situation undertermined. Teams reported in. Peterson's team with TFH reports much confusion in their sector, outfits moving back, etc. Enemy in hills around sector. Reported in with all equipment from quarters in Phillipsburg. Jerries reported around this town. At 1900 checked CP and found that Redwood Rear moving back to Dittwiller and Redwood Forward on alert to move. Went back to quarters and proceeded to get stuff off to company and get equipment together in case of movement. Corps would fall back to Dittwiller in the morning. Gave information to teams so that they could find us plus orders to stick close to their Division CPs in case of hurried movement. Situation very fluid.



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d. TF Heron, 8 Jan: Checked in at 12th Armored Division CP and was told they were going to attack Gombsheim with tanks. We went there but couldn't get into town because the infantry was dug in about a mile from it. While talking to some of the soldiers, we learned that they didn't see any tanks so we started for Bischwiller to the CCB CP. Driving across the field to the road, the Germans threw in some small stuff which almost hit us. Leaving CCB we made pictures around the Rohwiller area.

e. 3rd Div, 24 Dec: Ollar, Rosenblum and Smith took the 30th Infantry and worked up in that sector most of the day. The roads are pretty rough and engineers were engaged in improving them which made good material for both photographers. Lueders, McCroby and Boone took the 15th Infantry and after checking the CP went on up past the 2nd Battalion where they ran into two companies preparing for an attack. The troops were digging foxholes while waiting because of the heavy Jerry artillery falling nearby and the two photographers got some material on the digging and the soldiers moving up with artillery hitting in the background.

f. 3 Jan: With the rear areas being organized for defense in depth, the team spent the day in the sector west of Ville where engineers were constructing tank blocks, installing mine fields, preparing TNT charges on trees for road blocks and digging defensive positions. No advances made. Activity confined to patroling, artillery exchanges.

g. 106th Cav Gp, 17 Dec: Contacted Lt. Graves of the 106th who took us on a combat patrol to establish a machine gun nest.

h. 19 Dec: Went within fifty yards of the town of Engleshardt and made shots of the town being shelled by 106th artillery. We were so close to the first house that we could hear a child crying.

i. 44th Div, 16 Dec: Division concentrating on how to knock out the larger forts of Maginot Line. 8" shells just glance off their surface. We check Division CP for possibility of obtaining pictures of the attempts to eliminate the larger pill boxes. Had to proceed to Bn CP and inquire for possible information and routes to a vantage point of observation. C.O. there asked us not to proceed any further because of drawing fire on his troops and ourselves. Any movement ahead of Bn CP receives fire. His advise was supported by incoming artillery and sniper fire.

j. 19 Dec: More or less bypassed Division this morning as the Simserhoff Forts was our aim. Went to 1st Bn CP for immediate picture situation. These forts have been holding up the Division for 5 days. Finally received the O.K. to go out and get some coverage on these forts. Just missed an assault platoon of engineers taking the tops off these forts which was the method used to demolish and take them. Jerry apparently pulled out in early morning leaving by means of the tunnel system inside the forts because little opposition was met. The team followed in with an infantry company that took over.

k. 11 Jan: Dieves is holding down the fort in Herbitzheim and located a possible good story on the underground factory in Wittring. Further information on this factory reveals it to have been a plant for manufacturing V-1 or V-2 bombs, with a possibility of making of a chemical gas or an acid which was said to have been rumored would win the war.



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Co Hist Cont'd:
15 Dec to 15 Jan 45.

1. XV Corps, 12 Jan: Went to Division CP and checked PRO. Pamphlets arrived so we went to Hundling and photographed 383rd Bn firing propaganda leaflets. Then went to artillery OP where leaflets were being dropped over German-held town of Lixing which we photographed. No other activity.

Robert L. Lewis
ROBERT L. LEWIS
Captain, Signal Corps
Commanding

Incl:
Copies of "FOTO-FACTO"



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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758 US ARMY

19 February 1945

SUBJECT: Company History

TO : Commanding General, Seventh Army, APO 758, U. S. Army
Attn: Historian

1. In compliance with Circular No. 34, Section IV, Headquarters Seventh Army, dated 28 November 1944, history of the 163d Signal Photographic Company for period of 15 January to 15 February 1945 is submitted herewith.

1 Incl:
Company History (trip)
w/6 Incls.

Robert L. Lewis
ROBERT L. LEWIS
Capt., Signal Corps
Commanding

5GCO-163-0.1

CLASSIFICATION
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
Chauncy Chapman 1st Lt
DOWNGRADING CO... 2 Apr 46

JAN 8

1474
Master

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758 US ARMY

COMPANY HISTORY
(Period: 15 Jan to 15 Feb 1945)

1. a. The Colmar pocket has been eliminated. The wiping out of the last German strongpoint West of the Rhine and South of Strasbourg was fully covered by photographers of the 163d Signal Photo Company. The lensmen also maintained coverage along the entire 7th Army front.

b. All this activity has resulted in numberless still pictures and hundreds of feet of motion picture film being turned in by the photographers at the front. In addition to this, special coverage was made on anti-tank and anti-personnel mines; coverage of general officers under VI Army Group, and other short features.

c. During the periods covered by these monthly reports, various individuals are given recognition for a job well done. Just such men are Sergeants Chiappino, Dieves, Harris, and Newell. These men have demonstrated their abilities as combat photographers and have more than satisfactorily met the requirements for direct field commissions. Their appointments to the rank of Second Lieutenants on 16 February reflects great credit on this organization.

d. Another member of the company who received recognition for services rendered was Private First Class Ben E. Karlgaard. Pfc Karlgaard is assigned as a driver with a combat photo team. While on a mission in the vicinity of Colmar one of the team photographers was wounded by sniper fire. With complete disregard for his own safety, Karlgaard helped evacuate the wounded man to an aid station in the rear. For this courageous act he was awarded the Bronze Star.

e. On another occasion two still photographers were covering the action in the Colmar sector. One of the men Tec 5 Rutberg was wounded by sniper fire and evacuated to the rear. He was awarded the Purple Heart on 28 January. Not many days later the other photographer Pfc Lowery was wounded while shooting pictures of the action on the outskirts of the city of Colmar. Lowery was evacuated to a hospital and while there was awarded the Purple Heart. Both men had turned in excellent pictures of the action taking place in their sector.

f. On 1 February 1945 orders were published promoting 13 enlisted men of this organization.

2. Company activities for the period included a ping-pong tournament; showing of slides and 6 motion pictures procured from special service. Two girls from the American Red Cross paid the company a visit and served donuts and coffee. A must, required by Army Regulations is the reading of the Articles of War and a sex morality lecture every six months. February 13th was that day.

3. While the Germans were being driven from Colmar, big gains were also registered on other fronts. Enlisted men and officers of the company poured over maps and marked the progress made against the Reich by the Red Army in the East and the Allied Armies in the West. In the Pacific General McArthur had returned to the Phillipines and new gains were scored in Burma. Stimulating interest in the situation on the world battlefronts is handled by the Information and Education Officer through the medium of different types of maps which are

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kept up to date, daily news broadcasts bulletins, new clippings and photographs. Other duties of the I and E Offiter consists of aiding the members of the organization who have subscribed to USAFI courses, 12 in all; also extracting and compiling pictures from all available periodicals. These pictures pertain to the Seventh Army and are credited to the 163d.

3. Under current 7th Army directives 8 enlisted men and 2 officers were authorized a trip to Paris for the purpose of spending 2 days at the Rest Center. All agreed that the trip was well worth while. Orders also arrived returning Tec 5 Robert to the United States for 30 days temporary duty.

4. On 2nd February Major Smith, 7th Army Photo Officer, accompanied by Captain Lewis and driver made a trip to Paris on official business. Conferences were held with Colonal Jervey, Director APS, ETO, and Colonel Lawton, PMD, SHAEF. Time was also spent at the APS Laboratory and the 3908th Signal Service Bn. The main topic for discussion was photographic policies affecting operations in the 7th Army.

5. On 10 February some important changes were effected in the courier service between this headquarters and Paris. Depending on the weather "Spot News" pictures and film will go to Paris and thence to London by plane. Should the weather be unfavorable for flying the pictures and film will be transported to Paris by jeep to meet the London plane. Within 24 hours from exposure at the front, the pictures are in the news.

6. For the 22nd time since departing from the states, the company was once again on the move, this time from Magnieres to Luneville (WV 0699). The move was made on 14 February; the distance travelled 15 miles. A building was requisitioned on the outskirts of Luneville for Headquarters and living quarters for all personnel. The Laboratory was established in town.

7. Attached are the editions of FOTO-FACTO covering the period of this report.

8. The activities of the units in the field are covered by the following extracts taken from reports submitted by photo officers in the field:

a. 36 Div - 20 Jan: Today the team moved from Fenetrange to Saverne and into the same house with Lt Coates. When we arrived at the place a B-17 had just made a crash landing nearby and since Olin's camera needed some repairs, Frye made the motion picture coverage, 200 ft. A. Smith provided still coverage.

b. 23 Jan: The team toured the frontal areas and then went to an OP in Bischwiller and found the haze too thick to shoot through. Went back to battalion CP where General Dahlquist decorated the battalion commander with the DSC. Got two stills and Frye 100 ft on the general.

c. 24 Jan: On the way forward Frye was dropped off at the 143 Regimental Reinforcement training school and shot 200 ft of motion pictures that will go with his division picture. Ross and Valentine went into the woods in front of Kurtzenhausen where the 1st Bn of the 142 was dug in. They had just received a heavy shelling from Jerry and everyone was digging in a little deeper. Ten stills were made here. Picture taking was halted when some more stuff came in and Valentine and two infantrymen landed on top of the graphic while going in a hole. The camera is back for repair.

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d. 29 Jan: Today G-2 of the division nailed menfor some aerial shots of Rohrwiller and Offendorf. The sky was pretty hazy but they said they would be satisfied with just about anything that resembled a picture of the two towns. So Valentine went aloft in an L-5 and shot 9 stills with a 10" lens and then flew on to Luneville where he was put out at the fighter strip and had to walk on down to the cub field where Lt Sheppard picked him up and took him on to the company. The film was immediately put through to see if the lens had cut the haze. It hadn't so the lab put the film in the razor soup and sure enough that got through. About that time two frozen figures in the shape of Frye and Ross wrapped themselves around the stoves at the company. They had driven down to get Lt Valentine and the important tactical shots that had to be back to the Division by daylight. The lab had a tough time in getting out the 75 prints but made it just about daylight and the team was off to make delivery. It was a long cold ride but was worth it all when G-2 said they were just what the doctor ordered...and would be of great help for coming operations.

e. 3rd Div - 20 Jan: Went into Kientzheim. While Lowery and I were at one endof town a sniper shot 2 GIs by Smith in the other. After returning fire with a carbine at suspected windows...no more sniping. Lowery 1 still, Fenberg 200 ft.

f. 2 Feb: Went into Colmar with tanks. Lowery hit by bullet while trying to get pictures of tank firing. 1 pack stills, 500 ft movies.

g. 8 Feb: Went to Neuf Brisach. Tried to get to Rhine river but roads are either under observation or too smoked out to take pictures. Will try in morning to get to river again. Jerry plane dropped a couple today. Still necessary to go a long way due to bridges being out. 4 stills and 100 ft of movies on German mortars.

h. 13 Feb: Went over to Rhine river area again. Got to an OP looking right into town of Vieux Brisach, Germany which our guns were shelling. Once more small arms fire came our direction while crossing through smoke to get to OP. 300 ft movies - 17 stills.

i. 15 Feb: Went to Rhine river area. Shot pictures of dummy guns that Germans had made of wood to resemble "88's".

j. XV Corps - 25 Jan: Was assigned to cover a story at XV Corps... 8" howitzer which blew up not injuring any of the crew. Visited Rabley where we located this battery of the 932 FA Bn and got some pictures. Lt Goebel delivered pictures of General Haislip and his staff to the Aide de Camp. During the latter part of the afternoon, I stopped in at Corps and the Aide informed me that General Haislip was pleased with the pictures.

k. XXI Corps - 28 Jan: Went into Jebsheim half held by Americans and half held by Jerry. Lots of artillery coming in. Smith bent down just in time by a wooden door. When he stood up he could see through it without bothering to open it. Town too hot for pictures.

l. 28 Div - 5 Feb: Division CP moved into town. Checked with Liaison, G-3. Found that the pocket had been closed at Rouffach by elements of the 12th Armored and the 1st French Army ahead of schedule. Jumped down to Rouffach. Lots of Armor on the road. Found elements of the 28th in Hallstatt. Talked

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By NWM Date

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with the CO of the 110th Regiment who gave us his plans. Followed armor into Rouffach - shot several French-American angles. Powers shot 300 ft in town, Todd got 10 stills. Left Rouffach at 1500. Found we had no escort on the way back. Ran into a firefight on the road south of Hallstatt. We were stopped momentarily, nothing spectacular however. Arrived in Colmar and ran into Lt Lueders who had been house hunting. Gave him the film for the day.

m. 6 Feb: Checked with division for possible leads on situation. 28th crossing river at Niederhengheim 10 miles south of Colmar. Hunted around in that district and found that only patrols were crossing and a good bridge had to be put in. Stayed around until engineers started to work. Got coverage on bridge construction...300 ft movies, 5 stills. The infantry is going like hell to catch up with the retreating Colmar pocket. Can't hardly keep up with them on foot however. Been getting shells in Colmar every night about every 10 minutes. Sounds like 280's.

n. 101 Airborne Div - 29 Jan: Covered 463d Parachute Artillery Bn which had done yesterdays firing...a battery of 75mm pack howitzers. Made pictures of firing, living conditions, etc. Also did sequence on camouflaging of gun to fit in with snow-covered terrain. 400 ft movies, 19 stills.

o. 31 Jan: Visited mortar platoon. Did sequence on novel trend of mortar crew. The loader boasts the fastest record in his outfit. He holds 9 shells in the crook of his arm and has them away and gone in no time. Then went up to a forward OP where I showed shells hitting German territory. (Different shells of course).

p. 101 Cav. Gp - 12 Feb: Checked Group Hq. Received information on bombing to take place in afternoon. Went to OP to select best possible point of view. After waiting considerable time planes finally appeared at 1615. Went to church steeple as OP was too crowded. Church was about 400 yards from target. Planes circles several times trying to locate target. Mortar fire of red smoke did not help them as it landed in trees. Piper cub appeared and circled target then bombing began. Shots may be blurred due to church steeple shaking from blast. Strafing very close...had to duck to avoid it.

9. To conclude the report, the company was awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 15 October 1944 in France.

Robert L. Lewis
ROBERT L. LEWIS
Captain, Signal Corps
Commanding

6 Incls:
1 - Co Order #2 (trip)
2 - Team Placement Chart (trip)
3 - Citation for Pfc Karlggard (trip)
4 - Copies FOTO--FACTO
5 - Orders & Citation on Unit Plaque
6 - Movement Instructions

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By NARA, Date

HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758, U. S. ARMY

1 Feburary 1945

COMPANY ORDER )
:
NUMBER 2 )

1. Pursuant to authority contained in Section II, AR 615-5 dated 30 June 1943, Tec 5 William H. Harvey 20557351 is reduced to the grade of Private for inefficiency, effective this date.

2. Pursuant to authority contained in Section I, AR 615-5 dated 30 June 1943, the following promotions in this organization are announced, effective this date:

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT ..... (TEMPORARY)

Tec 4 Harry F. Jorgensen 36164245

TO BE TECHNICIAN THIRD GRADE ..... (TEMPORARY)

Tec 4 Fred M.I Bornet 32011144
Tec 4 Bennett M.I Fenberg 36521877
Tec 4 Edward A. Kastelz 39097654

TO BE TECHNICIAN FOURTH GRADE ..... (TEMPORARY)

Tec 5 Albert M.I Gretz 32520060

TO BE TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE ..... (TEMPORARY)

Pfc Francis E. Lane 32211506
Pfc Edward J. Schwarz 12163963

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ..... (TEMPORARY)

Pvt John J. Harkins 32722636
Pvt Pat L. Kohl 42041656
Pvt Norman S. Lowery 35762239
Pvt John A. Quinn 32679532
Pvt Raymond L. Rocha 38035371
Pvt Linton B. Salmon 11032693

JAN 8 1957

ROBERT L. ELLIS,
Captain, Signal Corps,
Commanding.

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By NARA Date

HEADQUARTERS
163rd Signal Photographic Company
APO 758 U S Army

Report NO. 5 Date Revised: 11 Feb 45

TEAM PLACEMENT (PHOTO)

| LOCATION or CORPS | DIV | TEAM NO | TEAM PERSONNEL M.P. (043) | STILL (502) | DRIVER (345) | VEHICLE NUMBER | *Notes change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| "A" - VI | Corps | 4 | T/4 Olin | T/5 Smith A | T/5 Pierce | 20401934 | |
| #25 | | 2 | T/4 Ratick | Pfc Kohl | Pfc Anspaugh | 20631005 | |
| LT BYARS | | 24 | T/4 Rosenblum | Pvt Miller | Pfc Durband | 20122371 | |
| (Photo 0) | | 6 | LT. CHIAPPINO | T/4 Gretz | Pfc Tressel | 20611428 | |
| T/4 Blau | | 9 | T/4 Hershey | LT. VALENTINE | Pfc Karlgaard | 20626294 | |
| (Still) | | 7 | T/3 Peterson | T/4 Bell | Pfc Frate | 20550446 | |
| Pfc Luper | | | | | | | |
| 20414398 | | | | | | | |
| "C" XV | Corps | 23P | None | T/5 Weintraub | T/5 Smith G | 20328023 | |
| LT GOEBEL | | 3 | LT. DIEVES | T/4 Leibowitz | Pfc Hebert | 20431877 | |
| (Photo 0) | | 21 | T/4 Galbraith | T/5 Lane | Pvt Smith JA | 20318546 | |
| Shindle- | | 5 | T/4 Horne | LT. HARRIS | Pfc Cipra | 20436446 | |
| decker. | | 18 | T/4 Frye | T/5 Rutberg | Pfc Ross S | 20391300 | |
| 20482701 | | 12 | Sgt Heller | LT. MOORS | T/5 Beatty | 20540587 | |
| | | *20 | S/S Morochnik | LT. NEWELL | Pfc James | 20325594 | * |
| "B" XXI | Corps | 8 | LT. LUEDERS | T/5 McCroby | Pfc Boone H | 20614280 | |
| LT LUEDERS | | 19 | T/3 Fenberg | Pvt Bowen | Pfc Smith E | 20502346 | |
| (Photo 0) | | 11 | T/5 Powers | T/4 Todd | T/5 Boone J | 20468909 | |
| | | 13 | T/3 Bornet | T/5 Stubenrauh | Pfc Zidek | 20416431 | |
| | Spec | *14 | LT. MEADE | None | Pvt Sargent | 2169536 | * |
| | Cov | Sound | T/3 Bensen | T/5 Smith T (Sound Recorder) | | | |
| SEVENTH | HQS | 15 | Ident | T/5 Greenhaus | Pfc Lingley | 20481620 | |
| ARMY | | | Pvt Harvey | T/5 Lapidus | | | |
| SIXTH ARMY | HQS | 16 | T/4 Nemeth | T/5 Snow | Pvt Olson K | 262877 | |
| GROUP | | | | Pfc Downing | | | |
| 163 SP Co | | 10 | T/3 Gerzen | T/4 Musser | Pvt Ross M | 2221185 | |
| (Reserve) | | * 1 | T/3 Kastelz | T/5 Brown | Pfc Kulpa | 20482078 | * |
| | | POOL | S/S Vita | | Pfc Rocha | | |
| | | | Pvt Harris | | | | |
| HOSPITAL | | | | T/4 Rooney | | | |
| Det Pnts | | | | Pfc Lowrey | | | |

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

B.C.N.
BROOKS C. NOAH
1st Lt., Signal Corps
Operations Officer

DIST "A"
1- C.O.
2- Ea CPLO
2- 7 APD
1- Ea Co Section:
1- File

JAN 8 1951

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By NARA, Date

# C I T A T I O N

For Award Of The

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

BEN E. KARLGAARD, 36 203 826, Private First Class, Signal Corps, 163d Signal Photographic Company, for heroic achievement in action. On 20 November 1944, near Belfort, France, Private First Class Karlgaard voluntarily accompanied two photographers on a combat mission. When one of the team was wounded by enemy sniper fire, Private First Class Karlgaard, with complete disregard for his own safety, helped evacuate the wounded man to an aid station, through intense enemy fire. Entered military service from Sarona, Wisconsin.

OFFICIAL:

HEADQUARTERS
SEVENTH ARMY

JAN 8 1951

A true copy:

Robert L. Lewis
ROBERT L. LEWIS
Capt., Signal Corps

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By NARA, Date

3

163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA X VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST of news from HQS. TO TEAMS in the field
Vol. II No. 5
Jan. 29 1945
-RESTRICTED -

## HARRY MORGAN DIES OF WOUNDS

It has been confirmed that Harry B. Morgan died in Italy as a result of wounds received when a German bomb hit the house where he was living with Max Campbell and their driver, Nelson Pitts. Campbell also died. (Foto-Facto January 2, 1945). Morgan, gay, witty, energetic, was a member of the 163rd when it was first formed in the states. Overseas, he was transferred to the 3131st Sig. Sv. Co., and in Italy was assigned as a photographer in the field. His Hometown newspaper in Charlotte, N.C., which published his picture with the story of his death, printed alongside of it the photo of his uncle, Thomas C. Clark, who died of wounds in the Pacific Theater.

Morgan, an only son, was 25 years old. He graduated from high school in 1937 and went to work in a photo studio. In April 1942 he enlisted. On November 16, 1944, he died. The photo shos him, with his usual grin, at Ft. Jackson, S.C.

## PING PONG FINALISTS

S/Sgt. "Shutter" Owens, winner of the 163rd ping pong classic, also known as the "battle of beer" is congratulated by Capt. Lewis whom he downed in the finals taking the C.O. four games out of seven and also taking the 17 bottles of beer which was the grand prize.

Sixteen beer hopefuls took part in the contest which was promoted by Lt. Rod (Ah,Ah but you cahhn't write that), Southworth and T/3 Hooley ( A watch I can sell you) Katz.

In the finals, played Sat. night, Jan. 27, Capt. Lewis used a rubber paddle, pinning his hopes on trick cuts. Owens stuck to a wooden bat and beef.

## PROTECTIVE FIRE

Seventh Army mortar team (4.2), prepares to throw white phosphorous barrage at enemy as protective cover for infantry seen in background moving through snow-clogged woods to a new position. Photo by Pvt. P. Kohl .

### ATTENTION PROUD PAPAS

Next week's issue of FOTO-FACTO is going to be a special "proud papa" edition. We're going to publish the photos of the child or children of all the daddies in the company. Do you have a picture of your offspring? Let us have it. We'll take good care of it and return it after copying. Daddies at Hdqs: Leave photos in the Orderly Room with Sgt. Satterwhite or give to the Editor. Papas in the field: Send yours in by courier addressed to FOTO-FACTO. Be sure to include name and age of child and present accomplishments. We'll try to make the page with the photos mailable so you can send a copy home.

## MAJ. AND CAPT. CASE THE CORPS

Maj. Smith and Capt. Lewis put on heavy underwear, got into PFC Lingley's version of a winterized jeep on Jan. 19, and ventured out for a tour of the various Corps where 163rd photogs hunt for pix.

The exact nature of the trip which ended on Jan 23rd, has not as yet been disclosed except that it was to observe Corps operations and improve photographic coverage. However, certain typewriters have been busier than usual since their return and the Maj. and Capt. have been deep in figures involving higher mathematics.

### YOUR "GELT" IN GERMANY

With American troops parked on German soil and more expected to join them as time goes by, the Army has put German mark notes in circulation called Allied Military Authority mark. The money can be recognized by a large "M" on the back which stands for "Military". On the front, the value is marked in German words. The rate of exchange is 10 marks to the dollar, that is, a mark is worth ten cents. Before the war, according to that authority on pre-war Germany, Sgt. Karl Harter, the mark was exchanged at the banks 2½ marks for one buck. But an American Travelers Cheque brought seven marks to the dollar. Anyway you look at it, Hitler has not helped Germany.

WATCH YOUR TIRES

## HITLER'S CHILDREN

These young Nazis captured by Seventh Army troops around Schillersdorf are members of the German SS Troopers and are samples of the kind of fighting men Hitler is pressing into service. Photo by T/5 Albert Gretz

## TWELVE TO PARIS

While a song has celebrated the attractions of Paris in the spring, tra la, twelve 163rd men left for the gay city, Sunday, January 28, with the hope of finding out what makes it the hottest place in France in the winter.

The lucky 12 are: Lt. Coates, Mr. Everett, M/Sgt. Barr, S/Sgt. Olsen, T/3 Gerzen, T/3 Peterson, T/4 Bell, T/4 Musser, Cpl Merritt, PFC Bartlett, Pvts. Frate and Redfield.

The number of men picked each month depends on the Seventh Army allotment divided up among its units. A company memorandum issued when the first group went to Paree states that "it will be the company policy to take advantage of this privilege in so far as operations permit and offer passes to deserving personnel on the basis of 75% for field personnel and 25% for Hqs. and lab. personnel."

Eventually, it is hoped everyone in the outfit will have a chance to frolic along the boulevards. Those who didn't get to go this time can console themselves with the sour grapes that Paris is nicer in the Spring, tra la tra la - love and everything, tra la.

IN THE FIELD.....WITH OLIN

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## CANDID SHOTS
### from field and hdqs.

It's lucky for the lab that it snowed..... when the water stops running, which is almost every day, the day gang fill cans with snow. put it on the fire and that way get water...idea belongs to Jim Feather...and last week, two of Sgt. Heise's slaves went to Baccarat for...well, why does anyone go to Baccarat? They couldn't get a ride back and walked all the way - was it worth it, fellas?

******

BARBER TALK...Johnny Albanese claimed his scissors were so dull he couldn't cut any more hair with it so he left it with Bob Lingley who said he could get 'em sharpened ...a few days later, the scissors were returned and the first customer was Major Smith..."How are they?, asked the Major... "Fine, fine. really cut good now", said Johnny...what Major Smith never told him was that the scissors were never sharpened and were returned just as they had been... And to the lab the other day came a Frenchman who was understood to say he was a barber looking for business..."Baldy" Bonner followed the man to his house, sat down on a chair and waited...the Frenchman also waited, finally put a towel around his own neck and also sat down...he was waiting for Bonner to cut his hair, believing he had obtained the services of our Company barber!

******

PERSONNEL DEPT...Lt. Coates and Pfc. Redfield, who are on a "mission to Paris" were replaced by Lt. Byars, Blau, and Luper... Gerzen, Musser, and Bartlett, on same mission, were spelled by Rosenblum, Miller, and Durband...Bowen substituted for Lowery as Fenberg's partner while Nemeth took the place of Powers at Sixth Army Group...Lt. Valentine, Frye, and S. Ross said goodbye to Lt. Goebel to join Lt. Byars...Lt. Wm. Leuders with McCroby and Boone moved to a new sector...Katz replaces Cohen of Det. "Q", 162nd, who went to Paris to receive his battlefield promotion - congrats -- Katz serving until Francis Lee arrives... remember Lee? - he's an old 163rder who missed the boat several times..."Clippy" Glenn has been filched from the laboratory and pressed into courier service...(Better wear some shoes, Glenn, it's cold in them thar snow-filled hills.)

## FIELD REPORT
### Highlights of Team Reports to Hqs.

TEAM NO. 1, of Kastelz, Brown, and Kulpa covered American patrol sorties and FFI activities around Haguenau which was a hot sector last week...TEAM NO. 2 - Ratick, Kohl, Anspaugh, got some dramatic stills and movie footage of a mortar crew giving protective cover fire to infantrymen moving to new positions...For TEAM 3-C, Lt. Dieves, Sgt. Leibowitz, and Pfc Hebert, highlight was probably story of French civilians, (les femmes) making the new fox hole boots...Reported Lt. Dieves, "You know Rock Hebert, you know Leibowitz, you know - girls! Well!...of course, I was only an innocent bystander (?)... TEAM NO. 5 - Lt. Harris, Jim Horne, George Cipra were in the toils of a story entitled "Gassing The War Machine"...TEAM NO. 9 - Lt. Valentine, Frye, and Ross moved to Saverne...Lt. Valentine learned last week that three in a fox-hole is a crowd...He jumped into a hole when Jerry shells started coming in uncomfortably close...two soldiers jumped in also - on top of him...it didn't do his Graphic any good...some of the stories covered - B-17 which crash landed; soldiers in dug-outs while refugees pass...TEAM NO. 10 -- Gerzen, Musser, Bartlett recorded scenes of troops moving up and refugees going to the rear...had an interesting experience locating a front-line unit...no one, including Division hqs. knew where the unit was operating...TEAM NO. 12 - Lt. Moors, Bob Heller, T/5 Beatty - highlight for them was shelling of Geislautern by Seventh Army forces - pix taken from foremost O.P...TEAM NO. 13 - Lt. Byars, Bornet, Stubenrauch, Zidek, now living in Saverne...Bornet and Stub. doing story on wire laying...Lt. Byars is taking over where Lt. Coates left off...(VI Corps people no longer look out their windows and say, "There goes the "Big Bird". Lt. Byars is reported doing fine as a few G. I's up there had heard of Texas.)

We had more "Field" but ran out of space.

Lt. H.E. Strock...O.I.C.
T/5 Robert...Editor
Sgt Bob Heller...Ass't Editor
1st Sgt Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735.017
By NARA, Date

## THOSE WHO DIE
## (AN EDITORIAL)

The war hurts most when it hits home. The news of thousands killed will not affect us as much as the death of just one soldier we know personally. Members of the 163rd have had the occasion to feel this truth for themselves since coming overseas, with the death in action of a number of our buddies.

And now, two more have been killed - Campbell and Morgan. We of the 163rd feel their death with a personal sense of loss. For they were men we knew; two swell guys, guys some of us buddied with, whose companionship we enjoyed, who with their particular brand of personality, helped make Army life somewhat brighter for us. In remembering them, let us remember who and what it was that killed them.

Often, out of weariness with Army life, we lose sight of the causes and objectives of this war; or because of disgruntlement with Army ways, we may even begin to doubt we are doing anything worthwhile. This, then, is a good moment to remind ourselves that the thing which killed Morgan, Campbell, and the rest, sought to kill us as a nation as it almost destroyed other nations.

In the struggle to prevent this - to stop Mazism - all of us in the Army contribute some part - some smaller, some larger -- those who die put in most. Yet let us not think of them as being dead. The Americans who have died and the others who may fall continue to live in the total life of their country. As long as America lives, they also live. In that sense, the Americans who die on the field of battle are immortal. They will continue to be alive in the memories of those who know them, and in the national heart of the homeland they loved.

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Photo History

### ONCE UPON A TIME...
### THERE WERE TWO GUYS

(Beginning with this issue, we start a series of short articles on the history of photography. The author, an officer in the company, is using a light style, giving a humorus twist to actual events and people. Let us know how you like the first one.Ed.)

The dusty hulk of Joseph Niepce, who invented photography in 1833, may have turned in its grave last week when one of our photo teams visited his home town in Chalon (du la Mud) loaded down with 20th Century equipment. In Joe's time, a pin-hole in a bed-room curtain was still the thing. The bed-room itself was the camera bellows and the back wall was the plate holder.

To take a picture, Joe hung his emulsion of asphalt and oil-of-lavender on the wall opposite the pin-hole and went to sleep in the bellows, with a five-hour length of burning candle stuck in his ear. The candle burned down, Joe jumped up, and developed his picture in a solution of petroleum and oil-of-lavender.

I'll agree that it was a strange type of film and developing solution but with them, Niepce was given credit for making the first permanent photographs. He then went in cahoots with Louis Daguerre, another photography pioneer, who had a lens.

It was a simple lens and one of the very first. When attached to the curtain, it had the effect of reducing the required exposure. The fast pace of these experiments soon killed our friend Joe, so Looey Daguerre had to do a solo. In addition to his lens, Looey also had ideas about silver iodide for film emulsion. This he formed by holding a polished silver plate in fumes of iodine, the resulting coated plate being light sensitive. After exposure, the plate was developed by holding it in vapors of mercury. It wasn't long before he reduced the bed-room size camera to one that would fit comfortably on a wagon but we remember the old boy mostly 'cause he got the picher.

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You can't mail FOTO-FACTO home. Though it is knownthat FOTO-FACTO is "restricted", a couple of boys thought it might be possible to send parts. That can't be done. either.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735.04
By NARA Date

163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA VERBORVM

WEEKLY DIGEST of news from HQS. TO TEAMS in the field
Vol. II No. 4
Jan. 22,1945
-RESTRICTED-

BAR HAPPY

2nd Lt. Dieves

2nd Lt. Chiappino

2nd Lt. Harris

2nd Lt. Newell

## 163 MAKES FOUR LOOTS

Four 163rders were polishing oblong-shaped golden bars this week as the company Table of organization splurged with four battlefield commissions.

Veteran combat photographers all, they were sworn in by Lt. Kieft, Tuesday, Jan. 16, at a company formation.

Capt. Lewis, in a short speech said, Each officer and enlisted man of the 163rd is gratified to know we have within our membership, four combat cameramen whose performance of duty has been of such quality to adequately meet the rigid requirements for combat promotions in the field....."

PERSONALITIES as seen by "SHORTY" DATZMAN

Under the Lewis administration which has as its slogan "don't break 'em, make 'em" our four friends have gone through the mill. Since that great day, 16 Jan. 1945 the enlisted personnel of the 163rd have been a little cautious in what they say and to whom they say it. Several boys have been observed craftily examining the collars,(for Sig. Corps insignia and amber bars), of their dearest friends before entering upon a conversation with them. "One can't be too careful these days"

The four boys, J.P. (Aw, let me shoot a couple thousand feet) Dieves; J.F. (The mad Cpl. of Ft. Sam Houston) Chiappino; Jack (Oh, lookit da purty fiddle Harris); and Ed (When does the next patrol leave?) Newell; have finally allowed the excitement in their breasts to subside and on 20 Jan. partook of the first solid food in a little over a week. At least that is the report from the field.

Rumors about the promotions were out before the actual event, of course. It was nobody's fault, because we could all hear Capt. Lewis rustling the papers in his room as he worked on the "big deal". If he hadn't run out of paper, who knows what might have happend?

CAPT. SMITH GETS LEAF

When he was plain J.J. Smith, the newly promoted Seventh Army Photo Officer, headed photo operations for the Detroit Times and International News Photos in Detroit. Entering the Army with a direct commission, he was assigned to Pictorial Branch, Army P.R.O,Washington as still picture editor and Chief of Still Picture Review Board; also was put in charge of world wide assignment and distribution of still pictures for newspaper syndicates. Major Smith has been in the picture game some twenty years.

Maj.J.J. Smith

## BATTLEFIELD PROMOTIONS

(an editorial)

There are many practices in the Army that we would sooner do without, but there is one which must receive our whole hearted approval - that's battlefield officer appointments.

Ordinarily, an officer comes ready made with an outfit. By and large, that can't be avoided when the Army is first being organized in war time. As a result, however, there are often examples of officers who are misplaced or who lack the qualities to command the respect of the men under them.

But with battlefield promotions, the rank and file know the men being commissioned personally. Generaly, the new officer has already won the respect of his comrades while still an enlisted man.

Battlefield promotions also serve to reaffirm the democratic character of the American Army. For we see that men like ourselves, solely on the basis of performance and character, without regard to social or economic background, race, religion or family connections, become officers of the Army of the United States.

It is with such thoughts in mind that we greet the commissioning of men from our own ranks. We know each one of them. We have eaten, slept in the same room, played, argued , and kidded with them and have seen the kind of work they have done. Each one - Dieves, Chiappino, Harris, and Newell, had the respect of his comrades. Unquestionably, there are other worthy photographers in the 163rd - but no once can quarrel with the choice of these four.

At the company formation, Capt. Lewis said, "I am sure that each officer and enlisted man will give the full respect for the authority invested in each officer...just as I am equally sure that each of the new Lieutenants will justify the confidence placed in their hands.

It is our hope and belief that the new looies will not only be respected officers, but continue to be our respected buddies.

## KNOW YOUR COMPANY

A NEW FOTO-FACTO FEATURE

(Starting with this issue we begin a series of articles called "Know Your Company". Each week, the work of another one of the 163rd Depts. will be described. We start with the "Team", the basic working unit of the organization.)

A Combat Assignment Team (Cat), is the smallest inegral part of the company, and the principle operating unit. All other operations of the company revolve around the "CAT'S". Their mission is to GET THE PICTURES.

The Team is selected from a pool of photographers and drivers by the C.O. and sent out on assignment, usually to a Corps Photo-Liason Officer. This Corps Officer is responsible for assigning the team to a certain unit (usually a Division), or an area (i.e., Belfort coverage); the team is responsible for procuring pictures of the

(continued on Page 3)

THERE'S NOTHING TO IT, JUST A TWIST OF THE WRIST... OH, IF NED COULD SEE ME NOW... IF NED COULD SEE ME NOW...
IF I DON'T GET BARS I'LL BLAME LIEUT. COATES!!
JOE D.
THE MILL
JUST WAIT TILL TISCHLER HEARS ABOUT THIS!!
BRAND NEW SECOND LOOIES
JACK
ED
CHIPS
OLINSKIVITCH + DATZMAN

With this cartoon, Sgt. Olin sent a note: "You will notice" he said, "that I am working under a pen name of Olinskovitch. That's me. But in case anyone asks, especially the Captain - just say you never heard of the guy."

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735 OAD
By NARA Date

## CANDID SHOTS
From field and hdqs.
By Sgt. Bob "Blue" Heller

HE HAD TO OPEN HIS BIG MOUTH...Edgar Benson was in conference with other photogs at Army about how things should be run... "It would be good", said he, "if an M.P. cameraman with sound, could get comments and personal experience stories from front-line men," Major Smith overheard part of Edgar's suggestion...the good Sgt. is now at the front...

******

A HUNTING THEY DID GO...taking time out from souvenir hunting recently, Larry Bartlett and Reno Frate (both formerly of the 163rd "Lootwaffe") embarked on a good old fashioned rabbit hunt up front. It is reported that beaucoup "bunnies" passed their gun sights, but they managed only to nab one...not enough for mess, fellas.

******

ATTENTION BENSON, CHIAPPINO, RUTBERG.... Charles Gallagher phoned yours and other families of 163rd boys from New York City and vicinity...invited them to a hotel and told them all about you...info came from Jerry Franklin whose mother told him all about it in a letter...Mrs. Franklin said, ..."an enjoyable time was had by all"... it was a swell gesture of Charlie's...some guys promise and forget, Charlie is a real buddy.

******

OVER SEVENTH ARMY RADIO Friday nite, the "Jersey Bounce" was played...it was requested (said the announcer) by T/Sgt DeToro and Cpl. Merritt of the 163rd "for the benefit of the Texans in their outfit"...the Texans, by the way, lost ground since the big snowfall - they couldn't claim for Texas the biggest snows along with the other"bigs" ...And natives of the village where hqs. is located amazed at the number of photographers swarming over the landscape for snow covered scenes asked one 163rd -"Does your Army issue a camera to each man"?

******

CPL. JONES is now FOTO-FACTO'S biggest booster...last week, "Candid Shots" reported loss of his knife and corkscrew - Jones was interested in the corkscrew...right after the paper appeared in the Day Room, the finder of the cork puller handed it back to him, making Jones a happy man.

******

ONE THAT GOT AWAY...Movieman Gailbraith and stillman Lane, were stalking for pictures in one of the Seventh Army sectors last week when they saw a peep come over a ridge with a P.O.W. on the hood, hands above his head...Gailbraith got set for shooting, decided angle wasn't right, lowered his camera and at that moment, a Jerry shell burst right behind the peep... result, peep disappeared in a hurry, so did Jerry, ditto photographers.

******

JOHNNY Albanese has opened a barber school ...his one and only student is...Sloan who is now doing the hair butchery for the company.

******

PERSONNEL DEPT...Lt. Byars, dropping his role as company morale Professor has gone with Syd Blau to VI Corps...Tex Luper in the driver's seat...Tex, among his many other activities of civilian days, played with Avon Shakespearian Players...if you don't believe it, ask him to recite from "Hamlet", "As You Like It", "Taming of the Shrew" and other plays...he's really good...Lt. Chiappino, Al Gretz, and driver, Tressel went from Lt. Goebel to Lt. Coates...while Hershey, Rutberg, and Karlgaard were shifted from Lt. Coates to Lt. Leuders...and to mix up matters further, Syd Cohen and Jim Todd (Det. Q. 162nd) were parted from Lt. Goebel for a new assignment with J. Boone driving...Lt. Moors (162), Bob Heller, and George Beatty (162) formed a new team and are out in the field under Lt. Leuders...Heller is handling an Eyemo...and FOTO-FACTO has lost (temporarily we hope) Bob's services as Candid Shot's columnist and assistant editor.

******

## BOW FROM DORSEY

Tommy Dorsey paid special tribute to the Signal Corps Photographers over the air in a recent program. After saying some nice things about the G.I. photogs, he played "Cashmeri Love Song" for them.

Lt. H.E. Strock...O.I.C.
T/5 Robert...Editor
Sgt Bob Heller...Ass't Editor
1st Sgt Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

unit in action within that area. Their responsibility ends with the delivery of exposed film to the Corps Officer.

A CAT consists of three men -- Motion picture cameraman, Still cameraman, and driver. Each have their jobs, but must work together smoothly as a TEAM. It has been found that the teams with the best internal cooperation get the best pictures consistently. Their locomotive means is a jeep, and a ¼ ton trailer when available. The cameraman all use standard G.I. photo equipment, supplemented by their individual improvisations.

The individual cameraman, must by necessity, be a good photographer, contact man, super-snooper, besides a normal soldier. Problems in the field would involve a lengthy treatise, but they are multiplied many times with the advent of the present cold spell. They do all first echelon maintenance on their equipment, which at present includes ice-chipping from frozen shutters, defrosting lenses, etc., not to mention thawing frost-bitten fingers which must be ungloved while making pictures. Thawing out the icy reception by staff officers is also one of their greater duties and sometimes becomes a problem, though most 163rd cameramen are born diplomats.

Conditions in the Field

Living in the field has been worked out from experience in several theaters, and most teams usually find a good "set-up". Light at night is a stumbling block, and most teams wade through grosses of candles like mad. Ration dumps are taken in stride and the cameramen do more "snowing" than the weather for that extra can of coffee or 10 pounds of steak. However, a bed and a good meal is small compensation for the daily ten or twelve hour pounding they take in their jeep, seeing more of the war picture than a doughboy. All services are represented by them...Infantry, artillery, CWS mortar battalions, armored units...the cameraman sees it all, and is probably one of the best oriented soldiers in the army at the end of day, besides being one of tiredest and coldest.

By Lt. R.C. Noah

(The driver's job is worthy of, and will be treated in a separate article. Ed.)

BACKGROUND OF NEW OFFICERS

CHIAPPINO, Joseph F. - Age, 26, from the Bronx, an eligible bachelor; was a photographer with Universal Camera Corp., N. Y.C., worked with DuPont Co., as chemist processing 35mm negatives, also worked with direct color prints; had just entered Life Magazine laboratory when the Army got him. Army highpoints - filming of Cassino and German debacle at Montelimar. Hobbies - music and wood work.

DIEVES, Joseph P. - Age, 27, from Beverly, California, married. Started motion picture career as a "yard bird" in a movie laboratory and worked his way up. Worked for Universal and Paramount newsreels as assistant cameraman; shot kodachrome for a company doing education features -- toured Mexico five months on this job; last job was with W.A. Palmer, San Francisco, doing professional 16mm production. In the Army, worked on training films and Screen Magazine. Highpoints - captured six Nazis with Bill Nemeth and five with Leibowitz; flight over Rhine. Hobby, he says, is - working!

HARRIS, Jacob - Age, 36, from Long Island, N.Y., unmarried. Ten years with Associated Press. Began Army career in infantry - 14 weeks basic at Fort McClellan. Photographic highpoints overseas - the bombing and ruins of Cassino. "Life" ran two page Cassino pan - called it one of greatest photos of war. Other big moments -- liberation of Rome, fall of Belfort. Hobby - music, or fiddling with fiddles.

NEWELL, Edward C. - Age, 33, from Manchester, New Hampshire. Background -- amazing! Engineer, criminologist, inventor, photographer. Activities took him to Berlin, Vienna, Brussels, London. His work ranges from consulting criminologist investigator for Senate to developing labor-saving gadgets. Education includes Universities of New Hampshire, Vermont, and Columbia. In Army was first an instructor at Fort Benning Infantry School. Highpoints with 163rd - Salerno and Southern France landings - Scoop, first pictures of fighting at the Rhine river. Hobbies? Does he need any?

WATCH YOUR TIRES

DECLASSIFIED Authority 735.04 By NARA Date

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE
163rd SIGNAL PHOTO. COMPANY

VOL. II NO. 8 20 Feb. 1945

- RESTRICTED -

# FOTO-FACTO

THE LOOOOTENANT SEZ
With the enemy approaching the small end, we'll be firing more and more at less and less 'til everything is being thrown at nuthin'.

## HQS, LAB RETAKE CHATEAU LEOPOLD

The first gain on the immediate front since the Saverne incident brought the company's Hqs and Lab once again to the fringe of Luneville and to the Chateau Leopold out of which they had been shelled by words and arm wavings from the Press Camp. The move began Monday, 12 Feb, with advance patrol armed with mops and brooms to be followed the next day by the first wave of men and boxes. The advance was completed Wednsday, 14 Feb, when the second and last wave, packing more boxes and the miscellaneous bits that make up our equipage, reinforced its predecessor. It was on this day that the Lab took over and set up a spot in the town proper. By the time the elusive sun went down, the company was well settled into its new location and the lab was in operation, meeting its dead line without missing a beat. Those in charge were very well pleased with the orderliness of the entire operation.

Says the CO, "The 22nd move of the company was one of the most efficient yet. First Sgt. Satterwhite deserves especial credit for planning and supervising the many details."

Says the First Sgt., "Smooth."

### PURPLE HEART AWARDS

The most recent awards were made to T/5 Jerry Rutberg wounded at Belfort and to Pfc Norman Lowery wounded at Colmar. Both men were victims of sniper bullets.

THE PADDLE-FOOT PROSPECT - Olin
SAY CAPTAIN, THIS CHARACTER SAYS HE'S DELL HAYDEN FROM HOLLYWOOD... IT'S NO WONDER HE'S IN SUCH A CONDITION... IS THAT SNOW ON HIS EARS?
THANKS FOR CATCHING HIM DOC.. COUGH! NOW ONCE MORE!.. STEADY OLD MAN... NOW, AS I WAS SAYING, WHAT'S ALL THIS STINK ABOUT DRAFTING 4-F's?
HACK..HACK.. WHAT CHART?
CHARLOTTE
OLIN

## THEY WHO ARE COURAGEOUS

Pfc Ben E. Karlgaard has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in action. He voluntarily accompanied T/4 Hershey and T/5 Rutberg on a photographic assignment into the Belfor cauldron. When a sniper's bullet wounded Rutberg, Karlgaard, with complete disregard for his own safety and spiting enemy fire, helped to evacuate him to an aid station. When asked what his first impulse was after the incident, he answered, "Let's get the hell outa here!"

Ben's home is in Sarona, Wisconsin.

The presentation was made by Capt. Robert L. Lewis, 16 Feb 45, at a special formation on authority contained in GO 35 Hq 7th Army, 5 Feb 45.

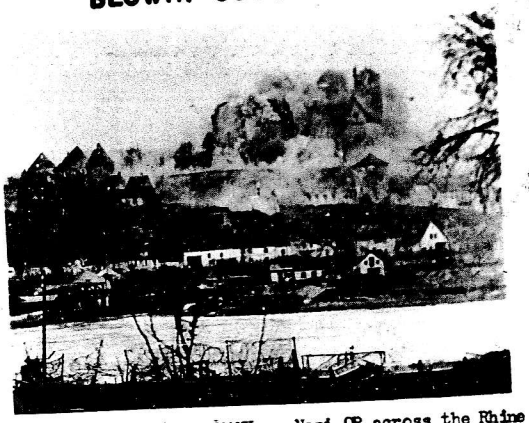
Pfc Karlgaard shown being presented with the Bronze Star Medal by Captain Lewis.
Photo by T/5 Edward Brown

## EDITOR EXITS

T/5 Sam Roberts, the father of Foto-Facto, has given up his editorship for TDin the States. Sam is to be commended for a job well done - even if he did get in his technical staff's hair once in a while. All his free time, that is, excepting the few minutes he spent tripping his Argus' shutter, was unselfishly spent pouring over copy, pix, and layouts in an attempt to give his fellows enjoyment and information in the most acceptable fashion he knew. His endeavors were particularly appreciated by the cameramen in the field who relied on his paper to keep them in touch with the other units and with Hqs. The paper will certainly miss him.

He is being replaced by T/5 James Feather.

## BLOWIN' OUT A BLIGHT



At ALT BREISACH, GERMANY, a Nazi OP across the Rhine is pounded into rubble by 105 mm Howitzers as the Germans and Yanks fight across the river.
Photo by Pvt Joseph Bowen

### BRONXITE SHOOTS STARS

T/4 George Bialkowski, lugging an 8 X 10 watch-the-birdie camera, has taken off for a tour of the Seventh's area to photograph the Generals for posterity (and SHAEF) with T/3 Hank Gersen in charge, T/4 "Muss" Musser at the Graphic, and Pfc "GI" Ross in the driver's seat. From the size of his grin when he first was told of the new assignment, Georgie was anything but annoyed by the prospects.

### CLIPPING COMMENTS

163rd-ers seen recently in American newsprint:-T/4 Sid Blau for shooting "newly liberated" Strasbourg from the sky (WORLD TELEGRAM); T/4 Ratick eyemoing at the front (BRONX HOME NEWS); T/3 Fred Bornet making friends of the kids (NEW YORK POST).

### SIDE LIGHT

- Says Lt. Jack Harris, "In a letter from the Executive Photo Editor of AP, my former boss, he mentioned that an old friend of ours stopped in en route to a new assignment. The friend, Col. Gillette.

Which leaves us wondering, what is the new assignment?

2nd Lt. Chiappino and T/4 Hershey made PATHE NEWS with their coverage of Strasbourg.

### THE GLAD HAND

Introducing S/Sgt. Emmett Davis, Montgomery, Alabama and S/Sgt. Jimmy E. Hoy, Las Vegas, Nevada, two new faces about the area. They and their L-5 (Stinson "Sentinel" to the unlearned) have come from 173 Liaison Sqdn. Flight "D" through Signal Sect. Com Z to give the 163rd-ers a courier service that squeezes travelling time to Paris into a neat little one hour and a half, weather permitting. We are both flattered and pleased to have such a service. So to our new associates, a hearty welcome; pull up a gas can and make yourself comfortable.

Incidentally, any groundgrapoler who has a yen to thumb a ride to Gay Paree will have to get in line; yours truly has been told he is the fiftieth on on the list.

### SICK CALL

Pfc Tex Luper has been dehospitalized; now back with unit.

T/5 Ed Schwarz is up, about the Lab again.

T/4 Jim Rooney writes he is looking for a trip to the States for further hospitalization. He complains that mail from 163rd is NIL. For those who want to use it, his address is: U.S.A. Hospital Plant 4130, APO #64, U.S.Army

Pfc Norm Lowery is medicmansioned with a sniped leg, a souvenir of Colmar.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 735 GD
By NARS Date

FROM THE CAT REPORTS.....

CAT 30: Hard luck seems to be stalking the entire unit...Lt. Dieves is intermittently incapacitated by a serious facial infection that requires attention hourly, and T/4 I. Leibowitz and Pfc Hebert are both suffering tooth trouble; however, they're plugging in spite of their afflictions.

CAT 21: T/5 Lane has undergone a bit of dental surgery on a chopper, the wisdom variety.

CAT 38: From the T/4 Frye-T/5 Rutberg-Pfc. Stan Ross combination it's moan, moan,moan too. Quoting, "Rain, jeep trouble, colds,a shot in the arm and a couple of shots of whiskey" sums up the week's activities.T/4 Frye feels his typhoid-iding, but good.....

CAT 12: The Horsey Set. Keeping in the pattern drawn by the Cavalry Recon Group this Lt. Moors-Sgt Heller-Cpl Beatty unit is now covering, Beatty has mounted a small, stuffed horse on his jeep's hood...Snooty,ain't cha? Lt. Moors' team risked their hides to photograph a dive-bombing and strafing attack on a target that laid a mere 400 yards from their church steeple O.P. Lt. John D. Moors reports, "Shots may be blurred due to church steeple shaking from blast."Are you sure that was the only thing shaking, Lt.? If it's any consolation, one of the group of shots was selected for radio.

CAT 13: T/3 Bornet's and his boys T/5 Rob't Stubenrauch and Pfc Zidek passed their infantry physical examination with flying colors. The team's comment, "Damn it!! But it was noted that Bornet was bogged by the bug shots.

CAT 19: "- - watched German in pill box fire machine gun at us", said the report from T/3 Fenberg. What! no hometown on him?

CAT 5: Pfc. George Cipra, the team's driver evacuated a man wounded outside of the O.P. where the team was operating. The man's fingers were severed; but Cipra checked the blood flow.

(Note to team scribes: send along bits of info either humorous or serious that might hold some interest for the readers.)

******

LAB GAB....Pfc. C. Hall, the one time motor pool statistician, has been transferred into the fold of the foto fumblers. Howdy!... We understand that T/5 Jones has come to the point where he must look to the Red Cross for entertainment. What degeneration!

Saturday nite while Pfc Shorty Datzman was showing a friend of his around the lab, he was overheard to say," --- and about 2 ayem we go mad." That's okay, Shorty, we don't mind; it's only a short trip..."Wrong Way" Barr, the Master Sgt., almost had his hungry nite crew in Rome not too long ago. He took a wrong turn and held onto it tenaciously...Homing instinct, Sarge?

******

ABOUT THE AREA...Spring Training: Major Smith warmed up the ole' pitchin' arm with Lt. Lueders, the master of a mountain of miscellany...S/Sgt Jorgensen took a crack at it too; but it cracked back and gave the "ear-y" one a blood blister...T/5 E. Brown tried a bit of hurdling over the rope at the gate; his approach was a beautiful one; but when the unexpected confusion of arms and legs had ceased, he looked kinda silly lying on his back in the mud...The bathing situation has become so acute that T/4 Harter had to resort to coffee on Saturday morning - T/4 Turner poured, with resolution...Trench foot has become so serious that the Army has appointed special officer teams to carry out a program of prevention...T/5 "Rube" Schneider has been selected NCO in charge our company program. "BEWARE OF TRENCH FOOT."

******

MOTORISTS:...Seventh Army Ordnance has established six emergency aid stations (for ailing vehicles) at the following points: MARAINVILLER, route N4; BACCARAT, route N59; DOMEVRE, route N4; HEMING, route N4; SAVERNE, route N4; and DOMBASLE, route N4. Stop at any station at any time for assistance...these points are operated by skilled mechanics who will gladly, "Fix it", for you...Paraphrasing, they'll take care of anything from water to windshield wipers..."KEEP 'EM ROLLING".

******

Staff

Lt. H.E. Strock...O.I.C.
T/5 J.W. Feather...Editer
1st Sgt Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 E.J. Schwarz...Technician
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

DECLASSIFIED Authority 735.04 By NARA Date

163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA VERBORVM

VOL.II NO. 7 SPECIAL ISSUE FEB. 13,1945

## 163RD. RECEIVES WAR DEPT. AWARD

It has just been announced that the 163rd Signal Photo Co. was awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque by the War Department, through the Seventh Army Commander, Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, Jr.

The award is in recognition of the "superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August, 1944 to 15 Oct. 1944, in France". This is the period of the first stages of the invasion of Southern France which began the morning of August 15. Our photographers hit the beaches with the first assault troops and together with a lab detachment, followed the Seventh Army, keeping pace photographically with the Army's swift and triumphant sweep northward.

The citation brings with it a plaque for the company and a laurel wreath decoration for each assigned and attached member of the organization. The wreath, worn on the sleeve, is made in gold and yellow-colored embroidery or a woven patch against an olive-drab background. Personnel are entitled to wear this as long as they are part of the company.

## FRATE, DURBAND RESCUE WOUNDED

While drivers Reno Frate and Casper Durband were standing by with their jeeps in embattled Oberhoffen, a Jerry shell burst close to a group of American soldiers. A few fell wounded. There were no aid men around at the moment. The two 163rders, ignoring the shells still coming, immediately raced to the wounded Yanks, got them into the Jeeps and hurried to an aid station.

The big palm to Frate and Durband.

### WHAT PROUD PAPAS SAY

There isn't a parent in the world who doesn't brag about his kid - it's natural and it's nice. Here's a few quotes from proud papas of the 163rd.

THOMSON- The other day Ronald bit the cat and his mother had to wash the fur out of his mouth. When given a German helmet to play with he mistook it for a bed pan.

HEISE- Adeline (that's my wife) writes that Linda always wants her own way and gets into plenty of mischief. She can walk without help.

HERSHEY-"Dick" is a heavyweight. Tears the hell out of furniture and gets "piffed" off as quickly as his pater.

SCHWARZ- Jim's favorite pass time is pulling out electric plugs and throwing things into the toilet.

NAGEL - While my wife was in the hospital for an appendix operation,(she's alright now-Ed), Glenn (28 months old), was brought for a visit and promptly said: "Get up mummy, get up"

## OUR FAMILY ALBUM

(Top Row-L.to R.). (1.) James A. Schwarz, Age,13 months; (2). Ronald George Thomson III, Age,2 (3.). Robert Allen Lewis, Age 18 months, (he's dressed as the spirit of 1945); (4). Anne Marie Anspaugh, Age, 19 months; (Center Row, L. to. Right). (1). Glenn M. Nagel, Age, 28 months; (2). Evelyn Wynne Glenn, Age 2 1/2 years; (3). Linda Heise, Age, 14 months. (Bottom Row, L. to R.). (1). Miss Jac.W. Kimbel, Age, 16 (Kimbel also has a son, Don N., Age 17); (2). Jeffrey George Coates, Age, 18 months; (3). Harold E. Jones, Age, 3 and Robert E. Jones, Age 16; (4). Richard M. Hershey, Age, 2 1/2.

## WE'RE THANKFUL THEY'RE SAFE

We proudly present children of members of our 163rd family.

Aren't they a swell looking bunch of kids?

They're going to be awfully nice to come home to even though some of them might at first say: "Who is that man, Mama?" But love is a swift answerer and the question will quickly give way to the smile and the trusting arms of confidence around the neck of "My Daddy".

As we look at these kids, most of them still in the diaper stage, and some almost grown up, we are thankful that they are safe - safe in America.

We are thankful that those who threatened the security of our homes as they have already destroyed the security of thousands of homes over here, are now on the run, that Germany is almost beaten, that Japan is being slowly pushed back to her lair - and that the day nears when all fathers away from home will return again to hear the sweetest words a man knows:

"My Daddy"

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By NARA, Date

## IN FIELD AND HQS.
### Last Week

"At 2215 hours", reports Gordon Frye, "on the evening of Feb. 5, T/4 Frye, wet and tired knocked on the door of a house in the little French town of Keshastel...the door was opened by T/5 Rutberg. The two gents shook hands. That happening signified the making of a new bunch of CATS know as Team #18." The new combine which includes Pfc Ross and his jeep "Foto Joe" takes up the same assignment as T/4 Hershey (whom Frye replaced or should I say reinforced) and driver Karlgaard...Harris and Horne covered a hot story - the rescue of a stranded combat patrol on a mission across the Saar.... coverage was from an O.P. on river's bank.. to get there, the photogs had to slog thru mud up to their knees, exposed all the time to enemy shells...Horne and driver Cipra were turned down at physical exams...Leibowitz and Hebert, during their exam, were found in need of dental work..Weintraub and driver G.G. Smith on way to an assignment got a tip that two planes crashed in a forest...they attached themselves to searching party and came out of said forest with pix of survivors and three of the airmen in the jeep...Bornet and Stubenrauch began a feature story on the "war-torn plain of Colmar" described tersely by Bornet as "fertile in its appalling, realistic scenes, the most eloquent battle scars we've seen on a spot of earth - ruins, wrecked equipment, ravaged ground, desolation, death"...and Bornet, greatly moved by what he saw, turned in some of the most eloquent captions this scribe has read from the field...Bill Miller in the hard-hit town of Oberhoffen was "graphicing" inside a ruined church near German lines when he was spotted by a Yank tank crew who mistook Bill for a Jerry - the crew zeroed in while one of their number entered the church and "captured" the 163rd photog...adding to his adventures last week, Miller photographed a Lieutenant for a home-town picture...as he crossed the street to obtain a caption from his jeep, a Jerry shell came in, landing between him and the officer...dazed, but unhurt, Miller took a picture of the critically wounded Lt., who a moment before, had presented a Sunday grin for his home-town paper...

The laboratory has been having trouble with its water supply...and Lt. Strock, O.I.C. of the lab in reply to a note from Lt. Byars regarding prints, made the classic observation: "I realize there is a war on, but does the war realize there's no water on?"...Lt. Byars reporting this, adds this suggestion to solve the water problem: "The French have a good cheap substitute called 'eau', or a reasonable facsimilie". Byars signed himself, Correspondent at SBS. (Saverne Base Section)

The 12 man quota to Paris brought back with them some very fancy Parisian hand-bags - only they were hanging under their eyes... each had stories to tell which could easily fill FOTO-FACTO, cause several domestic crises, erupt the Chaplain's Corps, and bring charges against the Editor for unfair competition to the original and undiluted Arabian Nights tales.

******

PERSONNEL DEPT...Norm Lowery hospitalized last week after being hit by a sniper in Colmar is doing very well - glad to hear it, Norm...also in the hospital is Tex Luper - Best regards and wishes for a speedy recovery to you, Tex...Kastelz, Brown, and Kulpa, after covering the "touch-and-go Haguenau sector, are back at Hq. waiting for another assignment...also on the bench after completing a mine story are Gerzen, Musser, and M. Ross...Lt. Meade, Benson, and T.C. Smith were seen around Hq. for a few days in between changing sectors..... back in their saddles after a week in Paris on foto business are Major Smith, and Capt. Lewis...welcomed to the family fold last week was Pvt. Harris from the 3968 Signal Service Bn., previously the 3120 Sig. Serv. Co...Now wearing silver bars in place of the gold are Lt. Ollar and Lt. Moors, attached to us, sometime ago from the 162nd.. Congrats.

Have you any news?
Send it to FOTO-FACTO.

Lt. H.E. Strock...O.I.C.
T/5 Robert...Editor
1st Sgt Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

DECLASSIFIED Authority 735.04 By NNA Date

## LT. LEUDERS COMMENDS COLMAR COVERAGE

Lt. Leuders in charge of teams with XXI Corps, commended them for "their excellent work in providing first-hand spot coverage of the battle for entry into Colmar." The praise was accorded in a report sent to Captain Lewis.

"All concerned", he said, "were 'on the ball' and were most energetic and courageous in their efforts to keep up with the latest developments and exhibited a fine sense of responsibility and duty in getting in with the forward elements under heavy enemy fire in order to get their pictures."

## 163RD GETS SPEEDIER COURIER SERVICE

Direct courier service to Paris is now in operation in the company. On Saturday, Feb 10, came Lt. McMade of SHAEF with the first "wave" of jeeps and drivers to inaugurate the service which will be a big time-saver in getting our pix to Paris and London. The jeeps make connections with planes or when the planes are grounded, make the run overland.

## COMPLIMENTS TO COMPETITOR

Compliments to the 166th Signal Photo Co. for their publication, "Kodachrome" which its publisher Lt. K.E. Hunter and editor M/Sgt. J.C. Ishan describe as a "colorful account in black and white". It's an eye-catching job with some features which has spurred FOTO-FACTO to seek ways and means to pretty its face a bit more. "Kodachrome" is printed contact. Up until last week, our lab did not have an 8x10 printer and FOTO-FACTO was printed by enlarger which resulted in a spread in the type and a loss in sharpness. Last week, "Horizontal" Omar Duchene bestired himself and built an 8x10 printer..This welcome addition to our lab equipment has also brought an improvement in the appearance of the paper.

******

Anyone having Reichmarks acquired in the Department of Moselle, should have them exchanged before February 28th.

## THANKS TO FOTO-FACTO HELPERS

FOTO-FACTO wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of four members of the company whose voluntary efforts have helped make possible issuing the paper regularly for these last 14 weeks.

George Bialkowski and Ed Schwarz handle the technical job from the copying to the developing...they often put in extra time after official laboratory work is finished. Improvements in the appearance of FOTO-FACTO are mainly the result of Bialkowski's suggestion and knowledge of photography and that of Ed Schwarz, who does a painstaking job of preparing the negatives for printing.

Kendzierski does the typing for the paper and gives up some of his free time each week. He also saves the editor from embarrassment by catching his mistakes before they get into print.

A new volunteer has been Arthur Peck who not only "rolls" our movie machine but also the mimeograph machine.

To all these, thanks - from the Editor and for the readers.

******

## HOW KIDS PLAY IN WAR TOWN

War provides all kinds of macabre contrasts and one of the strangest is the way children in battle-battered towns will turn the instruments of destruction into playthings for themselves.

Sometimes a photographer with a sensitive eye for the human aspects of the war will see these things and record them. Photographer Rosenblum of the 163rd was in the shattered town of Oberhoffen and here is his description of what he filmed:
"In spite of the shelling and the chaos, three kids were in the street making new toys out of broken German guns and equipment and we came upon one house where two children played in the backyard."

DECLASSIFIED Authority 735.04 By NARA Date

163 SIGNAL PHOTO CO
FOTO FACTO
OR DIGNA VERBORVM

VOL II NO. 6 RESTRICTED FEB. 6, 1945

COLMAR VERAGE

(Upper Left). Infantrymen on outskirts of Colmar-By Lowery. (U.R.). German prisoners found hiding in a basement-By Stubenrauch. (L.L.). Inside Colmar, waiting orders to move out for attack South. (L.R.). Happy crowds, some gals and a G.I.- By Todd

## 163RD. LENSMEN HAVE BIG WEEK

From Karlsbrunn, Germany to Colmar, France, 163rd Photogs clicked Graphics and spun Eyemos at a rate which rung in one of the biggest seven days this war weary outfit has had in a long while.

A total of 797 individual exposed negatives was poured into a groggy laboratory which ground out some 3,164 prints, including 4x5 prints, 8x10 radios, and 11x14's for display.

The piles of film cans, T/5 Leon Nagel, the recorder, informs us added up to the impressive footage of 23,480 feet.

In this potful of stuff was hot news, feature stories, hometown record and SPX-13 - running the whole gamut of war department requirements.

Outstanding, of course, were the pictures and movie film recording the entry into and the liberation of Colmar.

Film and captions of this event received at headquarters ran ahead of headlines in the press or radio newscasts. Had we a radio sending set, the stills would have been in the States along with the latest communiques. As it was, radio and movie selectees were rushed to Paris by special courier and then relayed. (Some of the stills appear on this page.)

First pix from Colmar came from Bob Stubenrauch. Six radios were found popping out of one of his packs. Then couriers rolled in with the 4x5's from Mc Croby, Todd, Bowen, Newell, Lowery. The latter was hit by a sniper as he stalked the forward troops. Moviemen covering Colmar were Fenberg, Bornet Morochinik, Powers and Todd who alternated with his Graphic.

Dead German on a street entering into Colmar At gas station are Allied solldiers and a couple of anti-tank guns- Photo by Lowery

## DARING SOVIET PHOTOGS. GO BEHIND ENEMY LINES.

To tell the story of Russian guerilla warfare behind the Nazi lines when they were still on Soviet soil, 18 cameramen parachuted into the enemy-held territory, together with their 35mm movie and still equipment, reports Popular Photography in a description of the audacious mission.

Included in the group was a woman photographer, Maria Sukhova, a movie director from the U.S.S.R's Central Newsreel Studio and a music composer who later wrote a musical score for the finished film.

Using hand-operated movie cameras, many of American make (lend-lease) and the FED (Russian-made Leica) for still pictures, the cameramen shot 100,000 feet of film which was edited down to a documentary movie called "People's Avengers".

Many times, the group had out aside cameras for weapons and joined guerillas and Red Army men to fight the Nazis. The lived with the guerillas in the forests and went out with them on their raids. Before the film was finished, two cameramen were killed.

"Now", says Popular Photography, as the film is being shown in the U.S., "the Russian armies are sweeping past 'guerilla territory' into Germany itself."

And, undoubtedly, Russian cameramen are in the thick of the fighting recording the spectacular offensive which has brought the Red Army almost within artillery range of Berlin.

POSTPONED

The FOTO-FACTO "baby edition" has been postponed until next issue. This is to give tardy "papas" who haven't turned in pictures a chance to do so and permit needed time for the technical work - i.e. copying, layout. Deadline is Thursday, February 8.

HOW DO YOU SPELL GROSSBLITTERSDORF?

That mile long name appeared in a caption. Closest name to it on map was GROSBIEDERSTROFF. Was it the same place? Probably. But no one could be sure except photographer. Photogs are urged to watch names of towns for correct spelling.

ROSS, WHAT THE HELL'S THE BIG IDEA TAKIN' OFF LIKE THE BIG BIRD?? WHERE'S THE JET PLANE??
HELL IT'S NO SQUIRT PLANE, IT'S THAT DAMN RABBITT!! THEY DRAW FIRE!!
ZING
ZIP
ZANK
NIDO OLIN

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By NNM Date

FIELD STUFF - CANDID SHOTS, ETC.....

Remark of the week: Said a Major to Lt Dieves: "Only photographers and crazy people would be out in weather such as this."

*****

Located on a quiet front, for the moment, Galbraith and Lane "taxed their brains" and came up with a couple good feature stories. One was a picture essay on a front-line factory making pickets for barbed wire fences. It ought to get a good play in the States because both press and radio has mentioned this front-line enterprise. Team 9 of Lt Valentine, Frye and Driver Ross got in the middle of a hot spot at Oberhoffen. Earlier Valentine got an aerial assignment from G-2; though visibility was bad, he says "lab had to put film in the razor soup" and had a tough time getting out the 75 prints (Bialkowski had to give each print a 7 minute exposure). Completed early in the morn the team sped to Div Hqs with the pix. It was a long, cold ride the Loot reports but was worth it all. G-2 said the pictures would be of great value. Weintraub-Smith team got a PRO tip and nabbed a nice human interest story of a WAC mother meeting her son...also recorded for history the firing of the millionth shell by XV Corps Artillery - Brig General Ott pulled the lanyard. Team 5, Lt Harris Horne, Cipra finally finished their "Gas for War Machine" feature. Reports Lt Harris: "we did it in 1,000 ft of movie, 32 stills and endless driving." Lt Dieves, Leibowitz and Hebert started a feature on French Ambulance nurses...last week they did one on French women sewing gloves. It may be a coincidence - or then again it may not. Team of Fenberg, Bowen and E. Smith were in town of Jebsheim which was getting plenty of Jerry shells. Smith was standing near a wooden door, bent down for something...just in time, because when he got up he was able to look through the door...it had a shell hole in it. The boys are riding in a new jeep - their old one was hit by a French tank while rounding a curve. Kastelz and Brown over Haguenau way got some dramatic shots of anti-tank guns and bazookas shelling Nazi's in a house across the river. Chiappino and Gretz on a comparatively quiet sector except for an occasional 240MM shell. They concentrated mainly on a mine story. Reports Rosenblum (162) "was impressed with work of linesmen who were working in heavy snowfall - shot 200 ft movies, Miller got 6 stills. Later in the week pointed cameras from a forward OP to shoot shelling of Germans 200 yards away in Reich territory. PERSONNEL DEPT: Peterson, Bell and Frate back with Lt Byars...Bornet and Stubenrauch from Lt Byars to Lt Lueders. Bowen replaced Lowery...Powers who was at VI Army Group took Katz' spot who was assigned to lab; also to lab went Stark of 162d. Newcomer welcomed this week is T/Sgt Harris (162) is in for Cohen. Hershey and Karlgaard joined Lt Valentine while Rutberg is now riding with Frye and Ross S.

*****

SCORE - 1 in 2 out of Hospital —

The score this week is two out of the hospital and one in.

Into the hospital went Norman S. Lowery who got hit while getting stills of Allied soldiers fighting their way into Colmar.

Out of the hospital and welcomed back to the company fold are Johnny Vita and Ray Rocha, hospitalized last December when enemy shrapnel got them and Jim Rooney at Belfort.

*****

Prize misadventure of the week was that of one photog, who shall remain unidentified. Stalking an embattled area with camera, he was questioned by MP's. The photog had no dog tags, no photog identification, nothing to prove he was an American soldier. He was clapped into a P.O.W. camp until Co Hqs bailed him out.

*****

SORRY, WE'RE LATE!!

FOTO-FACTO REGRETS THAT it was forced to appear late this issue...couldn't be helped...from now on we'll be out on TUESDAY instead of Monday.

*****

The Looooootenant says: "Worn tires ain't much good as rubber, but they'll sure help stretch the war."

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Photo History II

BIRTH OF TIN-TYPE

A hundred years ago in '42, Ansco, the world's first photographic firm, started business on lower Broadway in New York.(see footnote) The name being a shuffle of the first letters of the name of the originator, Anthony Scoville.

It is not known what was made or sold by the firm because photography was still in its infancy and the amateur was not yet invented. Mr. Anthon's main source of business, however, was his portrait studio where he made identification photos for back licenses and the local constabulary. The latest capture was clamped in a vise and a few minute exposure was made with the aid of the sun. The camera was then focused, the dark slide pulled, and another still developed. The light sensitive material was William Talbots' Callotype process, an improvement on Louis Dagurre's iodide process. It was sensitized and developed with galic acid. With the Callotype process, it was possible to make paper prints from the paper negatives. A type of silver bromide and a collodion process were also available at the time which gave birth to the tintype.
(For a more complete description of New York and other cities of the new world, consult Bonnard's "Rotation Escapade".)

******

S.C. PIX PUBLISHED IN NEW BOOK

Pictures taken by official War Department photographers during this war have been put in book form. Titled "Our Army At War" and published by Harper Brothers, it is a 282 page volume of photos, with short captions, showing scenes from the campaigns in the Pacific, Far East, the Aleutians, the Mediterranean, and the Air War over Europe.

Popular Photography in its review of the book, paid tribute to "those men who follow on the very heels of the invaders - the photographers for the United States Army".

This book would be a worthwhile addition to our Company library.

IN OUR MAIL BAG

Schimmel, The Civilian

Dear Editor,
"We have received a letter from the wife of our former partner Mush J. Schimmel, who was wounded while in Italy. She writes he is now a civilian and would like to hear from some of the guys in the Company. His address: Mr. Morris J. Schimmel, 7558 Parkdale, Clayton 5, Mo. Mrs. Schimmel also writes that she is making a collection of bells, cow bells, dinner bells, little bells, big bells - any kind of bells. If you spot any, send to Mrs. Schimmel or to us, we will pay any mailing cost.

Enclosed is a two franc note for a year's subscription to FOTO-FACTO. That's how long we expect to remain in this Theater before going to the South Pacific. We might add, we enjoy very much the cartoons by Clin and sincerely hope the Co. can see their way clear of relieving Milo of photographic responsibilities and let him concentrate on cartoons.

Hebert and Leibowitz.

(Better send 2 more francs - we'll be publishing in CBI, too. - Ed.)

LETTER FROM ROONEY

I'm still "foodling" around and future probabilities are a mystery. Was flown from France to "merrie" England which is as much a misnomer as Sunny Italy...Everything is coming along nicely except that I've been unable to find out what they intend to do about my facial scars.... Everyone's wildest dreams, of course, concern themselves with the possibility of a trip home. "I'm not hopped up myself", however until I've something definite to work on. Nothing stronger than water to drink for New Year's eve, but I did snag some scotch later which consoled me a little. Alcoholically yours, Jimmy (Schnapps) Rooney. (His address: U.S.A. Hosp. Plant 4130, APO 316, U.S. Army.

Lt. H.E. Strock...O.I.C.
T/5 Robert...Editor
1st Sgt Satterwhite...Local News
T/5 Pierson...Distribution

DECLASSIFIED Authority 735-710

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
APO 758 US Army

GENERAL ORDERS )
NUMBER 40 )

7 February 1945

AWARD OF THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE

Under the provisions of Section I, Circular 345, War Department, 23 August 1944, as amended, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded by the Army Commander to the following units:

THE 14TH ORDNANCE MEDIUM MAINTENANCE COMPANY, for outstanding devotion to duty in the accomplishment of an exceptionally difficult mission during the period 28 January 1944 to 23 May 1944, in Italy.

THE 45TH ORDNANCE MEDIUM MAINTENANCE COMPANY, for outstanding devotion to duty in the accomplishment of an exceptionally difficult mission during the period 25 January 1944 to 23 May 1944, in Italy.

THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 55TH ORDNANCE GROUP, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 1 January 1944 to 1 July 1944, in Italy.

THE 72D LIAISON SQUADRON, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 31 December 1944, in France.

THE 72D SIGNAL COMPANY, SPECIAL, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 15 October 1944, in France.

THE 74TH SIGNAL COMPANY, SPECIAL, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 15 October 1944, in France.

THE 77TH ORDNANCE DEPOT COMPANY, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 7 February 1944 to 7 April 1944, in Italy.

THE 163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 15 October 1944, in France.

THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT, 197TH ORDNANCE BATTALION WITH ATTACHED MEDICAL DETACHMENT, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 1 January 1944 to 1 July 1944, in Italy.



R E S T R I C T E D

JAN 8 1951

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THE 207TH SIGNAL DEPOT COMPANY, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 15 October 1944, in France.

THE 226TH SIGNAL OPERATION COMPANY, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 15 October 1944, in France.

THE 229TH ORDNANCE EVACUATION COMPANY, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 1 September 1944 to 1 November 1944, in France.

THE 680TH ORDNANCE AMMUNITION COMPANY, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks during the period 15 August 1944 to 31 October 1944, in France.

By command of Lieutenant General PATCH:

ARTHUR A. WHITE,
Major General, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

W. G. CALDWELL,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.



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HEADQUARTERS
163D SIGNAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY
APO 758 US ARMY

13 February 1945

MOVEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

1. Movement of company, including laboratory, will be completed Wednesday instead of Thursday as previously announced.

2. First call, Wednesday, will be at 0645 and breakfast will be at 0700 sharp. Laboratory equipment will be loaded Tuesday night as soon as operations permit. Laboratory personnel will eat breakfast and depart with equipment immediately after. They will set up lab at new location and then report to new billets. All personal equipment of laboratory personnel will be loaded on a separate truck which will go directly to the billet area.

3. The following trucks and loads will depart not later than 0800 Wednesday:

2½ Ton - 4148936 - Nelson w/Lab equipment and generator, Franklin, Feather
2½ Ton - 41664426 - Polito w/lab personnel baggage and 1 Ton trailer (tentage), Duchene, Schwarz
¼ Ton - 20147948 - Barr, Capt Gillett, Lt Strock, Jorgensen
3/4 Ton - 2190488 - Glenn, Hanson, Harkins, Katz, Kendzierski, Nagel, Leon Amendola, Bonner, Datzman, Reitnauer
¼ Ton - 20482078 - Kulpa, Lt Southworth and baggage
¼ Ton - 20481925 - Pratt, Pierson and baggage (Continue on mail run)
2½ Ton - 44279662 - Jenkins, Supply & MP 1 Ton trailer, De Toro

4. T/5 Jenkins and Pfc Nelson will return with their 2½ ton trucks as soon as they are unloaded. T/5 Polito will remain at new location and make ration run in Weapons Carrier No. 253920.

5. Rest of company will work as a group, cleaning up present building and grounds. Noon chow will be at 1130 after which everyone will depart for new location as follows:

070 - Horch - Layton, Summerlin and MP baggage
2½ Ton - 4486465 - Olson W, Turner, Quinn, MP and 1 ton MP trailer
2½ Ton - 4480866 - Babiak, Grubman, Camera Repair and 1 ton trailer w/officers baggage
2½ Ton - 4148936 - Nelson, 1 ton trailer (Officers baggage), Schneider, Peck, Rest of supply, Orderly room, Day room
2½ Ton - 4160987 - Reynolds, (1 ton trailer'generator'), Tanner, Rovinski, Salmon, Hall J, Gene, Mess and baggage
2½ Ton - 44279662 - Jenkins, (1 ton generator) Sloan, phillips, Wood, coal, gas cans
3/4 Ton - 2221185 - Owens, Hester
3/4 Ton - 2200643 - Thomson, Hall C
¼ Ton - 20441722 - Mr Everett, Lt Kieft, Lt Noah
¼ Ton - 20414389 - Satterwhite, Harter, Merritt
¼ Ton - 20323166 - Lt Ollar, Capt Lewis

JAN 8 1951

6. If necessary, some of the above trucks will return for another load.

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7. T/5 Albanese and Pfc Rocha will remain in present location until building is cleared and then move to new location in 3/4 Ton No. 2168674.

By order of the Company Commander:

Perry P. Satterwhite Jr
First Sergeant



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